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Villagers raise £70,000 to fund kids' play area

Civic salute for college learners

COUPLE LAUNCH DOWN'S SYNDROME CAMPAIGN

Grateful parents pay tribute to neonatal unit staff and plan annual event to raise funds and awareness of condition

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

A COUPLE who were shocked when their daughter was diagnosed with Down's Syndrome just 30 minutes after being born have launched a campaign to raise awareness and funds for research into the condition.

And they have paid tribute to staff at Ormskirk Hospital's Neonatal Unit whose speedy diagnosis enabled the newborn to have prompt treatment for other complications.

Ste and Katie Brookes, who have a three-year-old daughter Emily, were overjoyed when their second daughter, Alice, was born at the neonatal unit last October.

But their joy soon turned to anxiety when Alice was diagnosed almost immediately when eagle-eyed staff quickly identified physical characteristics which included a single crease across each palm (babies without the condition have two) before a blood test confirmed the diagnosis.

Down's Syndrome is a genetic condition that usually causes learning disabilities and distinctive physical characteristics.

Co-operative Bank worker Katie praised the staff for identifying that Alice had the condition almost immediately as this meant she could be checked for additional health concerns quickly. She was also grateful for the tactful way that they handled breaking this important information.

Ste and Katie Brookes with daughter Emily and baby Alice

Now the couple from Old Skelmersdale are planning to hold an annual fundraiser to mark World Down's Syndrome Awareness Day on Tuesday, March 21.

Bickerstaffe FC player Ste, who is a joiner by trade, will be kicking off the first fundraiser by shaving off his shoulder-length hair at Urban Hair on High Street in Skelmersdale.

The family originally hoped to raise around £50 but pledges have already reached £735 and they want to donate the funds to national charity, The Down's Syndrome Association, whose Tell it Right campaign aims to educate staff in hospitals, midwives, nurses and paediatricians how to tell parents and provide support for the families of children diagnosed with the condition before or after birth.

Katie, 31, told the Champion: "Ste is looking for sponsorship to have his luscious locks chopped to raise money to support the Tell it Right campaign as we experienced both the positives and negatives of this when our second daughter was born.

"We were so shocked when we found out. It hadn't been picked up on pre-natally and we didn't notice any of the characteristics ourselves.

"We were thrown straight into the deep end and it's a steep learning curve, although if we had known that she had it before birth it wouldn't have made any difference to us personally.

"One of the most important things about a speedy diagnosis is that babies can be tested immediately for further complications.

"Alice has a hole in her heart and a problem with one of her valves and was being treated by a cardiologist at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool within a week of being born!

Continued inside

Foodbank team's special Mother's Day appeal

STAFF at the Skelmersdale and District Foodbank are making an appeal for donations of women's toiletries and treats in the run-up to Mother's Day on Sunday, March 26.

Brenda Lowe, distribution centre co-ordinator at the foodbank based at the Ecumenical Centre in Northway, is asking for donations to be dropped off at the centre, preferably between 9am and 1pm on Monday and Thursday, although they can also be left on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday at the same times.

Every week, staff at the foodbank see women struggling to afford food, let alone expensive items like nappies and sanitary products. As Mother's Day approaches, the charity is calling for donations of shampoo, sanitary products, nappies, shower gel and toothpaste to help local women and their children.

Brenda said: "Every day at the Foodbank we meet mums from across Skelmersdale and the surrounding areas who share heartbreaking stories about the difficulties they face to put food on their children's plates.

"No mum should feel like they have let their children down because something outside their control, like illness or an unexpected bill, has thrown the family into crisis - that's why we give not only emergency food, but also compassionate support and hope when people are referred to us.

"When you're struggling to afford food, you're often struggling to afford other basics like toilet roll, shampoo and women's sanitary products too. Toiletries are not the first thing most people think of when they're donating to a foodbank, but they do make a huge difference in restoring some normality when you're at the point of crisis.

"Whatever you are able to give this Mother's Day will help local mums who are struggling to know that there are people who care."

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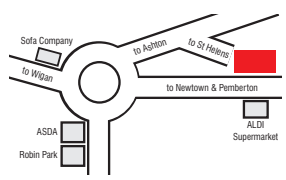

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Landowners warned to beware of storing illegal waste

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

ENVIRONMENT Agency officials are warning landowners across Lancashire not to be duped into storing waste on their land without checking if is legal, following a spate of incidents across the county.

The agency says businesses are being targeted by people looking to dispose of waste by dumping it in warehouses, mills and some open spaces.

It cautions that these 'waste criminals' can be very convincing in persuading landowners to allow them to use their properties and are able to fill the sites with waste which would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to clear, ultimately leaving the landowner with an expensive clearance bill.

And all landowners are being urged to use reputable agents and brokers and carry out suitable checks and due diligence before allowing potential criminals to use their buildings or property as without these measures it could end up costing thousands of pounds to clear.

Steve Molyneux, an environment manager at the Environment Agency, said: "It's crucial that all businesses understand their duty of care responsibilities for the waste they produce, who they allow to transport it and ultimately where it goes

"Too often, when these responsibilities are misunderstood or ignored, we see the impact of waste crime where waste is deliberately dumped on land with no permit. This can cause serious pollution, put communities at risk and undermines legitimate businesses that are doing the right thing.

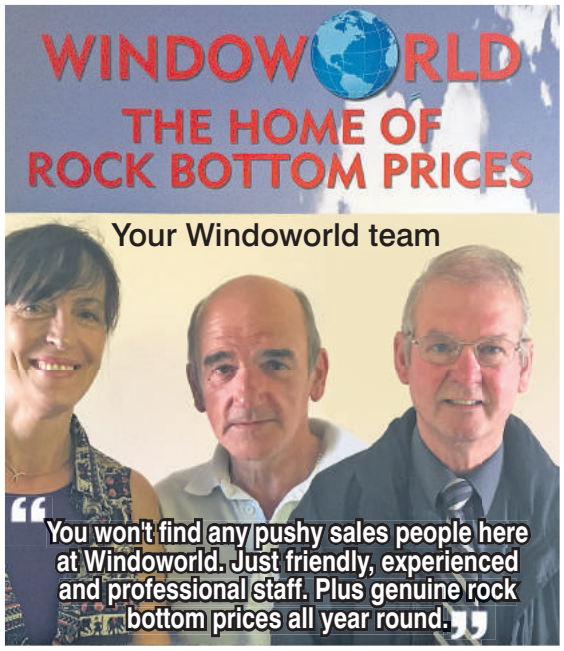
"And even if the landowner has no involvement, legally they may still be responsible for that waste and that could mean a large clear-up bill."

An example of illegal waste dumped in Lancashire

Waste stored inappropriately can create issues for neighbours through smells and pests. It can also have a detrimental effect on the environment and impact on rivers and streams.

There is also a high risk of fires due to the waste not being stored in the correct manner. Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service's community protection group manager, Liam Wilson, added: "Fires involving mixed baled waste can be incredibly difficult to extinguish and pose a risk to public health and the environment as they often contain hazardous materials. In extreme cases this can lead to the loss of the property in which the material is being stored."

If you suspect any illegal activity, have been approached to store such waste or you're currently storing such waste contact the Environment Agency on its 24 hour incident hot-line 0800 807060. Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.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County council commits £4.3m towards detailed study as next step to deliver town's rail link

LANCASHIRE County Council has committed more than £4.3m towards the next phase of work to provide a new rail link to Skelmersdale from the Wigan to Kirkby line.

Merseytravel will also contribute £0.76m towards the cost of a £5.1m 'GRIP 3' feasibility study, which is part of the rail industry's formal process for delivering new projects.

It follows the completion in December 2016 of a study into the best place for the station, which recommended using the site of the former Glenburn High School.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper has welcomed the announcement. She said: "A £5 million investment to carry out this technical feasibility study demonstrates bringing a rail services to Skelmersdale is not just words. There is a real commitment to making this a reality.

"Once the survey work has been completed we should have a much clearer idea as to whether it is possible to construct a railway line into the town and what works would be needed.

"There is still a long way to go until we have a railway station in Skelmersdale but progress towards that goal continues with this new study, which is good news for the town and its residents."

The new study, to be carried out by Network Rail, will involve detailed work to develop the track design and consider how it would interact with existing infrastructure such as roads and pipelines. It would also examine issues relating to electrification of the line, the remodelling of Kirby and Rainford stations, and the design of new stations at Skelmersdale and Headbolt Lane, Kirkby.

The decision to approve the study was taken on Monday (March 13) by Lancashire's cabinet member for highways and transpor, County Councillor John Fillis.

He said: "Linking Skelmersdale to the rail network will transform the town, and be a major catalyst for future commercial, retail and housing development. Improving connections and widening travel options is vital to extend the opportunities available to local people, and a rail service providing 30-minute journeys to Liverpool, and 60-minute journeys to Manchester would have a huge impact.

"We have already carried out feasibility studies which show that connecting Skelmersdale to the rail network should deliver good value for money, with a new station attracting between 600,000 and 1.3m passengers a year.

"We feel that the best route for funding the rail link and associated improvements would be through a Growth Deal, of the type which has been so successful in other parts of the county. It is estimated that this would be the largest Growth Deal bid Lancashire has put together so far."

Work will also be carried out to refresh the previous 'GRIP 2' study, to include modelling a full timetable for services, and consider issues such as rolling stock.

Delivering a railway station for Skelmersdale is a key feature of the county council's West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan. It also outlines proposals for a wholesale reconfiguration of the town's transport network, ensuring the station is integrated with the bus network and accessible on foot or by cycle.

Villagers rally round to raise £70,000 for children's play area

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

A GROUP of residents in a small village bordering Up Holland have clubbed together to raise a staggering £70,000 to fund a toddler park, children's play area and adult gym equipment for their tight-knit community.

The 10-strong group joined forces to create the Crawford Village and Pimbo Lane Playing Field group -now a registered charity - and started fundraising for the play park in the village in October 2015.

And thanks to a lot of cake sales, fashion shows and quizzes, plus successful grant applications to the Lancashire Environmental Fund, Lancashire County Council and the National Lottery Fund's Awards for All scheme, the group were thrilled to hit their target within 18 months.

Now work to build the park has begun.

Group member and mum-of-three, Heather Lomas, explained: "We are a community group in Crawford on the outskirts of Up Holland and Rainford. There are only 200 houses in Crawford and we sometimes feel like the land that time forgot.

"We have no pubs or shops but instead of just complaining about it we thought that we would rally the community and do something about it.

"We have a great village hall and brilliant field, but all it had on it was a frame with the swing missing and a concrete pipe! So we decided to create a park to give the children of the community somewhere to play.

"We talked to the children at the local primary school who ran a project to design and cost the park they wanted.

Above: How part of the new play area will look when finished and (below) the broken swing which formerly occupied the field

"Then the adults set to with the fundraising. We have baked lots and lots cakes, held fashion shows and quizzes, applied for grants and have raised a massive £70,000 to enable us to have a toddler park, a children park and also some adult gym equipment.

"We needed a project to bring the village to life and the play park has been just the spark. It has really brought out the community spirit here. I don't think there's a single resident who has not got involved -even if it was just eating a lot of cakes to raise funds!

"Also, it has been really lovely seeing the warmth it has brought out between residents. Now everyone is quicker to talk to each other and we feel like a stronger community.

"There have been quite a few more families that have moved into the village in the last five years as well so there's more of a need for the park now.

"It's exciting to have reached the building stage but that means that we have more time on our hands – so now we're thinking of what we could do next to keep improving the village!"

Couple launch campaign in aid of Down's Syndrome awareness

From Page 1

"Luckily, it looks like the hole will heal on its own. She also has breathing problems and this is currently being looked into.

"The team at Ormskirk Neonatal were fantastic - so quick to diagnose and with how they dealt with the news. I can't imagine having to tell someone something so important.

"We were so lucky not to have the delays in diagnosis that other families had - what a brilliant team they are.

"We are also hoping to run a fundraising event for the unit later this year.

"I want other families who may find themselves in our situation to know that it's not the end of the world. "

● To sponsor Ste, visit the online donations site Just Giving and search for Katie's Supporting Tell it Right.

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77 drivers caught using mobiles in week-long crackdown by police

A TOTAL of 77 drivers were stopped and handed tough new penalties as part of a week of action by Lancashire Police to catch motorists using mobile phones behind the wheel.

Among those now facing increased fines and penalty points was a driver who said he didn't know how to work his built-in hands-free kit and an HGV driver caught texting. The HGV driver will also be reported to the North West Traffic Commissioner who has responsibility for issuing operating licences for HGV companies.

In addition, a tradesman who already had eight points on his licence now faces the prospect of being disqualified at court for exceeding the 12-point maximum.

During the week-long operation (March 1-7) officers targeted major trunk roads and areas where concerns had previously been raised by local communities, to enforce the law, prevent offending and educate those who continue to disregard the safety of other road users.

Marked and unmarked police vehicles were used to identify possible offenders, checkpoints were implemented across the county and officers responded to complaints about persistent offenders.

Targeting this type of unacceptable behaviour on Lancashire's roads was part of a wider national campaign to clamp down on mobile phone use whilst driving. It also coincided with the implementation of increased penalties for the offence, which are now set at six points and a £200 fine.

For new drivers (within two years of passing their test) this means automatically losing their licence and having to re-apply for a provisional and re-take their theory and driving test.

As well as the 77 caught using their phones, a further 53 people were caught travelling without wearing a seatbelt including a driver with two young children in the car.

A total of 52 vehicles were seized from the roadside for a range of reasons including no insurance or no driving licence.

Officers along with Mobile Camera Van Technicians also detected more than 200 speeding offences across the county.

Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw

Chief Inspector Damian Kitchen said: "We engaged widely with the public last week, through local radio, social media and check sites. The overwhelming feedback is that the public are extremely supportive of the increased penalties and focus on this offence. Indeed a large number advocated bigger fines and penalties.

"The detection of not only so many phone offences, but other offences such as seatbelts and speed offences shows that we still have work to do. The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership is committed through education, engagement and, if needed, enforcement to drive down casualties 'towards zero' on our roads.

"Some of the people caught now face not only increased insurance premiums, but in some cases the potential of losing their jobs. I would rather we catch nobody and see this offence become a thing of the past. This is not about fines and points, it's about stopping people getting injured on our roads."

Research shows that when talking on a mobile phone, a driver's reaction time is nearly 50 per cent slower than under normal driving conditions and you are four times more likely to crash if you use a mobile phone when driving.

Clive Grunshaw, Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner, added: "These figures show that there are still too many people on Lancashire's roads willing to put themselves and others at risk by using a device at the wheel. However, they also show that the police are taking action and using the tougher powers they have available to them.

"When I talk to members of the public about roads policing, people using phones at the wheel is their main complaint. To those taking unacceptable risks the message is clear, the police have the powers to tackle this and will take action against you. Don't risk people's lives or losing your licence."

In support of the tougher national stance, the constabulary will no longer offer education courses to drivers caught using their phone as an alternative to a fine and points. Those caught will automatically be issued with a penalty notice or be reported to court, depending on the circumstances of the offence.

It is hoped that the tougher penalties will act as a deterrent and encourage people to think before they pick up a phone whilst driving, realising the dangers and potential life changing consequences.

Activity will continue throughout the year to target motorists and to raise awareness through ongoing social media campaigns.

More information can be found on the Lancashire Constabulary website: https://www.lancashire.police.uk/campaigns/distracted-driving-mobile-phones/.

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‘Exciting project’ for Tawd Valley Park

Council allocates £25,000 for masterplan to assess facilities and seek funding for improvements

WEST Lancs Council is set to embark on what the authority has described as “an exciting project” with external partners which, it is claimed, will bring significant environmental and recreational benefits to Tawd Valley Park and surrounding local communities.

The aim of the project is to create a family-friendly environment with good-quality facilities and management. Establishing and promoting links from the park to the local community, the town and wider environment will also form part of the scheme.

The project will involve carrying out improvement work on a 2km stretch of land, starting from Skelmersdale town centre following the River Tawd in a northerly direction.

Organisations involved include Groundwork, Lancashire County Council, the Environment Agency, the River Douglas Catchment Partnership and West Lancashire CVS.

The council has allocated £25,000 to produce a masterplan which will involve assessments to identify existing facilities and habitats within the park and an extensive public consultation exercise to gather information for future requirements.

The Environment Agency is making a further contribution of £15,000 to support the process and improve the water quality of the River Tawd.

The masterplan will then be used to seek funding to make the proposals a reality.

Community engagement is an integral part of the project and key to its success. The council will therefore be consulting in the near future with local communities to seek their views about how the park should develop.

They will also be looking at forming a ‘Friends of Tawd Valley Park’ group to assist in the future management of the project.

Tawd Valley Park

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, the council’s portfolio holder for leisure, said: “This will be a really exciting scheme for Tawd Valley Park and the local community and we want everyone to get involved.”

Local environmental charity Groundwork currently runs two volunteer projects that are making a huge difference to the Tawd Valley - Love My River and Green Leaders.

Mike Crowther, Groundwork’s director for sustainable communities, said: “This is fantastic news. We look forward to continuing to work alongside our partners and local people as part of our long-term commitment to improving the local environment in the Tawd Valley.”

Projects already underway in the park include footpath work and plans to create a history trail and cycleway.

The mayor, Councillor Liz Savage and her consort, Councillor Noel Delaney, pictured with staff and learners at West Lancashire College who have achieved success in Level 1 Personal and Social Development.

Civic salute for college learners

MAYOR of West Lancashire, Councillor Liz Savage went along to West Lancashire College to celebrate the success of Level 1 Foundation learners at the college.

A spokeswoman for the college said: “We were delighted that the mayor attended after accepting our invitation to celebrate the success of our Foundation learners who have worked extremely hard developing themselves further in society.”

Care home’s Dementia Awareness Day

CARDINAL Heenan House dementia care home in Roby Mill, Up Holland is staging a Dementia Awareness Day on Saturday, March 18.

The event will run from 10am to 4.30pm with the Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Liz Savage, scheduled to join staff and visitors at around 11.30am.

Christine Edge, activities co-ordinator at the home, said: “The focus of the day will be a day of prayer and awareness of dementia as ours is a dementia care home. There will be a special focus on young people and there will be two information sessions involving young people who have become Dementia Friends.”

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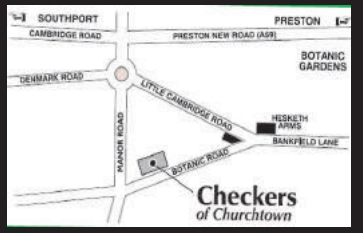

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MC Stuart Sage (centre) with speakers at the Skelmersdale Ambassadors Business Breakfast event, Colin Hill and Phil Lynas from All About Food, Ian Perks from Buffaload Logistics and Edwin Booth, chairman of EH Booth supermarkets and the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership.

Business chiefs join town's Ambassadors at networking event

A GROUP of prominent business leaders joined the Skelmersdale Ambassadors at their latest networking event.

The business breakfast gathering offered an opportunity to find out about the latest developments in the town, hear from other local companies and the chance to make connections with other businesses and organisations.

West Lancs Council believes the group is becoming a powerful network to enable local businesses to raise their profile, as well as showcasing Skelmersdale as a great place to live, work and invest.

The network's second breakfast event was held at the West Lancashire Investment Centre in Skelmersdale and guest speakers included Sir Edwin Booth, owner of Booths supermarket chain and chairman of the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership; Phil Lynas and Colin Hill, founder, and managing director respectively at All About Food Ltd.; and Ross Taylor, chief executive of Buffaload Logistics Ltd.

West Lancs Council leader and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "A key council priority is to be ambitious for our economy by growing jobs and encouraging business and wealth."

The council say Skelmersdale Ambassadors will act as powerful advocates to influence, attract investment and encourage business growth.

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Call for fairer deal on police finances

West Lancs MP urges minister to ensure funding formula reflects demands on forces

ROSIE Cooper has called on Policing Minister Brandon Lewis to ensure the Home Office eradicates previous calculation errors and that police funding reflects the demands on the respective forces.

The West Lancs MP raised concerns ahead of the revised National Police Funding Formula being finalised and used to calculate future funding arrangements, during Home Office questions in the House of Commons.

Addressing the minister, she said: "On a previous attempt to recalculate the national police funding formula, Lancashire Police was set to lose £25 million a year. That was revised down to £8 million a year when inaccuracies were identified. That is on top of the £76 million that it had already saved since 2010.

"What steps is the Policing Minister taking to ensure that the national police funding formula will not repeat the same mistakes and will accurately reflect the demands on police forces?"

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper

DWINDLING

In response, the minister attempted to offer assurances on the matter, saying "we will see where it goes for all in order to get a fair formula for the future."

Speaking afterwards Rosie Cooper said: "As we see fewer and fewer police officers on our streets, police and community support officers rapidly dwindling and police stations closing, it is unsurprising people are concerned as to the future impact of the new funding formula on our police service.

"The glaring errors of the Home Office's first two attempts to calculate the funding formula are far from reassuring. Perhaps it will be third time lucky and they will get it right.

"We shall see if the Policing Minister will honour his commitment of a fair funding formula.

"Lancashire Police have already had to slash £76 million from their budget and they face a further £2.5 million cut to their government funding grant in the next financial year as well.

"As I told the minister, police funding needs to accurately reflect the demands on our police forces so that people feel safe in their homes and safe on the streets."

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Cone of Chips	£1.00	Fish Cake	£1.00	Cans	£1.00
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Council defends use of body cameras by car parking enforcement staff

by **Danielle Thompson**

WEST Lancs Council has defended its use of body-worn cameras following a report by a privacy campaign group.

The report, for Big Brother Watch (BBW), revealed that more than six in 10 councils are not conducting privacy impact assessments before deploying the cameras and that more than a fifth are keeping footage for longer than 31 days, the guidance for police forces.

And it claimed that nationally nearly £1.8million has been spent on purchasing 3,760 cameras.

One of the main reasons cited for the cameras is to protect staff from aggressive behaviour, but they are also used to capture offenders littering, committing parking offences and allowing dogs to foul public areas; or to monitor recycling habits.

A spokesman for West Lancs Council said: "Enforcement on West Lancashire Borough Council's pay and display car parks is carried out by NSL, an appointed enforcement contractor. Their civil enforcement officers wear body cameras to help deter confrontational behaviour and have found them to be highly effective in doing so.

An example of one of the many types of body cameras that can be fitted to a uniform

> "We do not regard the cameras as an intrusion of privacy as they are not in continuous operation"

"We do not regard the cameras as an intrusion of privacy as they are not in continuous operation - officers only use the cameras if they feel a situation requires it."

However, Renate Samson, chief executive of Big Brother Watch, said: "Despite repeated warnings about misuse of surveillance powers we have found that once again councils are choosing to use powerful law enforcement tools with little consideration of privacy.

"Using body-worn cameras to protect people's safety is one thing, but widespread filming of people's behaviour in order to issue fines is simply not proportionate."

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The Technical Award, which is a nationally recognised industry qualification, meets the Association of Residential Letting Agents' (ARLA) Propertymark membership requirements for those looking to join the Association as a member agent. ARLA Propertymark is the UK's foremost professional body for letting agents. It aims to promote better regulation and higher practice standards in the UK private rented sector.

Cheryl has been working as a letting agent and has recently set up her own lettings business - Cdk Lettings, covering Skelmersdale / Ormskirk and surrounding areas.

Cheryl Cain of Cdk Lettings comments: "It was important for me to secure this recognised qualification as a letting agent. It is not only a personal achievement but also a mark of professionalism and trust; it provides reassurance to tenants dealing with Cdk Lettings that the agency adheres to the highest professional standards, and that employees are qualified and knowledgeable letting agents."

Cheryl is among a growing number of agents across the UK working with ARLA Propertymark and Propertymark Qualifications to become qualified and raise standards within the industry.

Melfyn Williams, Chair of the Governing Body, adds: "The Propertymark Qualifications NFoPP QCF Level 3 Technical Award is a regulated qualification ideal for candidates wanting to improve existing knowledge in the key areas related to residential letting and property management. Propertymark Qualifications is committed to raising standards within the residential letting and property management sector through the provision of accredited, nationally recognised qualifications, such as the Technical Award Cheryl has achieved."

David Cox, CEO of ARLA Propertymark, concludes: "I congratulate Cheryl on her achievement of the Level 3 qualification and am pleased to welcome her to ARLA Propertymark membership.

"ARLA Propertymark strives for better regulation in the private rented sector; with the support of letting agents across the UK recognising the need for higher standards and integrity in the sector, gaining a qualification with Propertymark Qualifications counts as a real stamp of professionalism and supports the drive for better practice within the industry."

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The former Burscough Bridge Interchange building

Charitable trust to take over former Interchange site

LANCASHIRE County Council has revealed a proposal to transfer ownership of the former Burscough Bridge Interchange building to a charitable trust to provide a space for community-led activities and projects.

The proposal for the site, which closed last June as part of the authority's bid to reduce its budget following cuts in government funding, is one of a number of similar schemes being considered.

The council agreed last year to reduce the number of buildings it owns and rents, and form a network of multi-functional buildings known as Neighbourhood Centres, to provide a base for a range of different services in one place.

During public consultation on the property strategy the council agreed to explore proposals by community groups and other organisations to take on responsibility for running some of the affected buildings.

The council has received 43 business cases in all.

The proposal for the former Burscough Interchange premises adjacent to Burscough Bridge rail station will see the building transferred to a charitable trust formed by Burscough Parish Council working with partner organisations.

All of the proposals are subject to further discussion and final agreement on the terms of the transfer.

Deputy leader of Lancashire County Council, County Councillor David Borrow, said: "Services which are owned and run by the community have a particular value as they can respond flexibly to local needs, and I'm very pleased that we're able to support these proposals."

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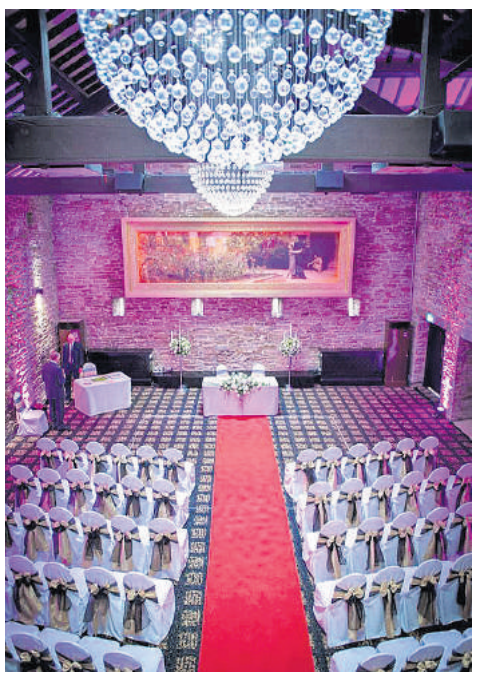

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County commits to new initiative on tackling obesity

LANCASHIRE County Council has made a new commitment to tackle obesity and encourage people to lead a more active and healthy lifestyle.

The authority has signed up to the Local Government Declaration on Healthy Weight - a national initiative in conjunction with Food Active.

The declaration sets out action the county council will take to reduce the impact obesity has on communities, the economy, and Lancashire's health and social care system.

The council has agreed to:

• Work with food and drink retailers to encourage them to sell products responsibly. This includes making healthier food and drink options available at shops and takeaways close to schools.

• Ensure healthy food and drink options are available in public buildings such as schools and hospitals.

• Ensure people can easily access fresh drinking water in more county council-run buildings.

• Develop plans with organisations on Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board to address the causes and impact of obesity.

• Limit promotion of unhealthy food and drinks in and around schools.

County Councillor Azhar Ali, Lancashire's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "Obesity is a serious health issue here in Lancashire, with 66.7% of the county's population classed as overweight or obese. This is higher than the national average of 64.8%.

"Adopting the principles of the declaration will provide a focus for our work and help us to do even more to address this important issue.

"For example, we'll be working with businesses that sell food to ensure that healthy options are available, particularly in fast food outlets that are close to schools and other facilities used by young people.

"We'll also help people to know more about the food they eat, so that they can make better choices for themselves.

"We've already been doing a great deal of work to tackle obesity. Last year we introduced a new service called Active Lives and Healthy Weight. We'll also continue to work with schools to encourage children to stay fit and well."

For more information about obesity, visit: http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/lancashire-insight/health-and-care/lifestyle/obesity.aspx.

County Councillor Azhar Ali, County Councillor Lorraine Beavers, lead member for health, and Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, the county council's director of public health pictured with the healthy weight declaration

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Report claims bus funding cuts may lead to 'transport deserts'

A REPORT commissioned by an independent charity which fights for better public transport, walking and cycling, for the sake of communities and the environment, claims that some areas could become 'transport deserts' as a result of cuts to funding for bus services.

Research by the Campaign for Better Transport reveals supported bus services have been hit hard by funding cuts with more than 500 routes completely withdrawn or reduced across England and Wales in 2016/17.

The 'Buses in Crisis' report shows that nearly £30 million has been cut from local authority supported bus funding in the last financial year - an 11 per cent reduction in England and 7 per cent in Wales, compared to 2015/16.

Lancashire County Council initiated the biggest cut this year, officially cutting their entire bus support budget, £7 million, while maintaining £2 million of Community Transport budget.

And the North West is the region that has seen the highest bus cuts this year with an average reduction in bus spending of 15 per cent.

The research also shows that since 2010 more than £100 million - 33 per cent - has been cut from local authority bus funding and 2,900 bus services have suffered cutbacks and withdrawals resulting in huge disruptions for communities.

Campaigner, Lianna Etkind, said: "As our research shows, buses across the country have been hit hard by funding cuts. Year-on-year we are seeing more bus services lost, with some local authorities stopping supporting buses altogether.

"These cuts come on the top of cuts to school transport and the under-funding of free pensioner travel; together these threaten the viability of whole bus networks and will lead to 'transport deserts' in some rural and suburban areas where there is no public transport at all.

"This decline is not inevitable though. With the Bus Services Bill currently going through Parliament, there is hope that powers in the bill will help local authorities to better plan and set standards for their bus networks, improving people's access to jobs, services and education.

"We urge the Government to ensure that all local authorities have the full range of powers at their disposal; and to put in place a plan to ensure buses have the funding they need.

"The Government needs to understand the vital role buses play in the economy, the environment and to wider society and to commit to protecting bus services, not just in towns and cities but in rural areas as well."

Talk will trace station's naval history

A LOCAL historian is to give a talk about the rich history of the former Royal Naval Air Station, HMS Ringtail, in Burscough.

Lawrence Critchley will hold the talk, entitled 'Ringtail to Retail' at Booths Café on the Ringtail Retail Estate on Wednesday, March 29. Running from 7 to 9pm, it will also feature a display of relevant artefacts and photographs.

Tickets cost £2 and can be bought from Booths Café. All profits from the event will be donated to the Royal Navy Historic Flight, a civilian-staffed charity which maintains and flies a small number of aircraft that are important to British Naval aviation.

One of the former crews of HMS Ringtail

Choir celebrates 30th anniversary

MEMBERS of Parbold Chamber Choir will mark their 30th anniversary by staging a Baroque Fest on Saturday, April 1 at Christ Church, Parbold Hill.

Choir secretary, Alex Garden, said: "The 30th anniversary concert will feature music from the choir's very first concert in March 1987 - Come, ye Sons of Art, by Purcell and Zadok the Priest, by Handel.

Choir members are delighted to welcome David Lewis, their founding musical director, to play harpsichord in the guest orchestra and Paul Chamberlain, also a former musical director, who will sing baritone solo.

"Victoria Little will be singing mezzo-soprano solo, Stephanie Guidera, contralto solo and the concert will be directed, as usual, by Jim Cooke.

"There is a large car park at Christ Church and refreshments will be served in the interval."

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets, priced £10, can be ordered by calling 01704 821303 or emailing contact@parboldchamberchoir.co.uk.

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Growing menace for pedestrians in town centre from those on four wheels and two!

I WOULD like to know why are cars illegally parked on double yellow lines and pavements in Ormskirk town centre?

If they parked like that in Southport they would all have tickets on their windscreens within five minutes!

Also, cyclists on pavements are getting more of a menace towards pedestrians, especially the elderly.

And these are not new problems, they have been going on for years.

A. E. Millington, Redgate, Ormskirk

Budget subsidises motorists while Government oversees decimation of local buses

ONCE again we have motorists and lorries being subsidised by the Government by freezing and in fact cutting petrol duty whilst throwing millions of pounds at environmentally-destructive road schemes.

This is the same Government which has seen a near 30% increase in the cost of public transport and the decimation of local bus services due to the massive reduction in the grants to local governments.

This is doubly unfortunate as David Cameron stated that his would be the greenest government ever and the previous Conservative Government increased fuel duty above inflation to slow down the growth in road traffic.

I was not surprised by this year's fuel duty freeze as the Chancellor, Phillip Hammond, when the Minister for Transport, remarked that the war on the motorist was over (in reference to the previous Labour government) and caved in to the motoring lobby by savaging John Prescott's White Paper on transport because it was too anti car.

He could not understand why cyclists should be in front of motorists at traffic lights when cars are faster, nor why at railway level crossings trains have priority over motorists and finally he cancelled a rail scheme to connect Heathrow airport with south London because it would inconvenience some motorists at level crossings.

J. M. Berry, Aughton

Work on long-awaited rail station should start NOW not in five years!

I WAS very disappointed to read in the Champion (March 1) that our councillors are 'excited' by the news that the long-awaited Skelmersdale railway station may see work BEGIN in five years time. Come on!

Yes, it is long-awaited by the residents of Skelmersdale and beyond.

This project has been costed over and over. My message to our councillors is to get on with it - NOW!

Freeze everything else if you must, the station and the rail link is of the utmost importance to us all.

Having to wait a further five years for this project to start is a joke!

Those are my feelings on this matter and I would be encouraged if others were to be of like mind.

Ron Webster, by email

Privatisation by the back door is still privatisation

GEORGE Pratt's letter (Champion, March 8) says that using private profit--making companies in the NHS is not privatisation.

This is double-talk. If such companies were allowed to take over 99% of the NHS he would argue that this is only 'making an efficient use of resources'.

We know from experience that these outfits put profits first, not patients. Just look at the catastrophic state of the privatised prisons.

Vital public services like the health service should remain public.

Back-door privatisation is still privatisation.

Maurice George, by email

Plan needed to save our NHS before it's too late

A GOOD letter from Joe Welsh (February 23). He says we have a choice and should fight for our NHS.

How do we fight? Any suggestions from the apathetic public who do little and moan a lot?

Remember GB Shaw who said: 'Unless we plan for the future we shall get what we are given and then it will be too late.'

Graham P. Walker, Up Holland

Time to take a leaf out of other countries' book on medical insurance

I AGREE with P. MarshalL (Letters, February 15) that it's time that people from other countries having any sort of treatment on the NHS should pay the bill.

Their passports should be taken and returned only when the bill has been paid.

My wife and I are planning a trip to America to see our children. We are both in our 80s and my wife has a heart problem. We have been quoted a staggering figure of £3,725 for travel insurance.

Other countries expect payment for medical treatment, so why not us? It's time our government took action instead of just talking about it.

Walter Lonsdale, by email

Excellent walk-in staff a credit to health service

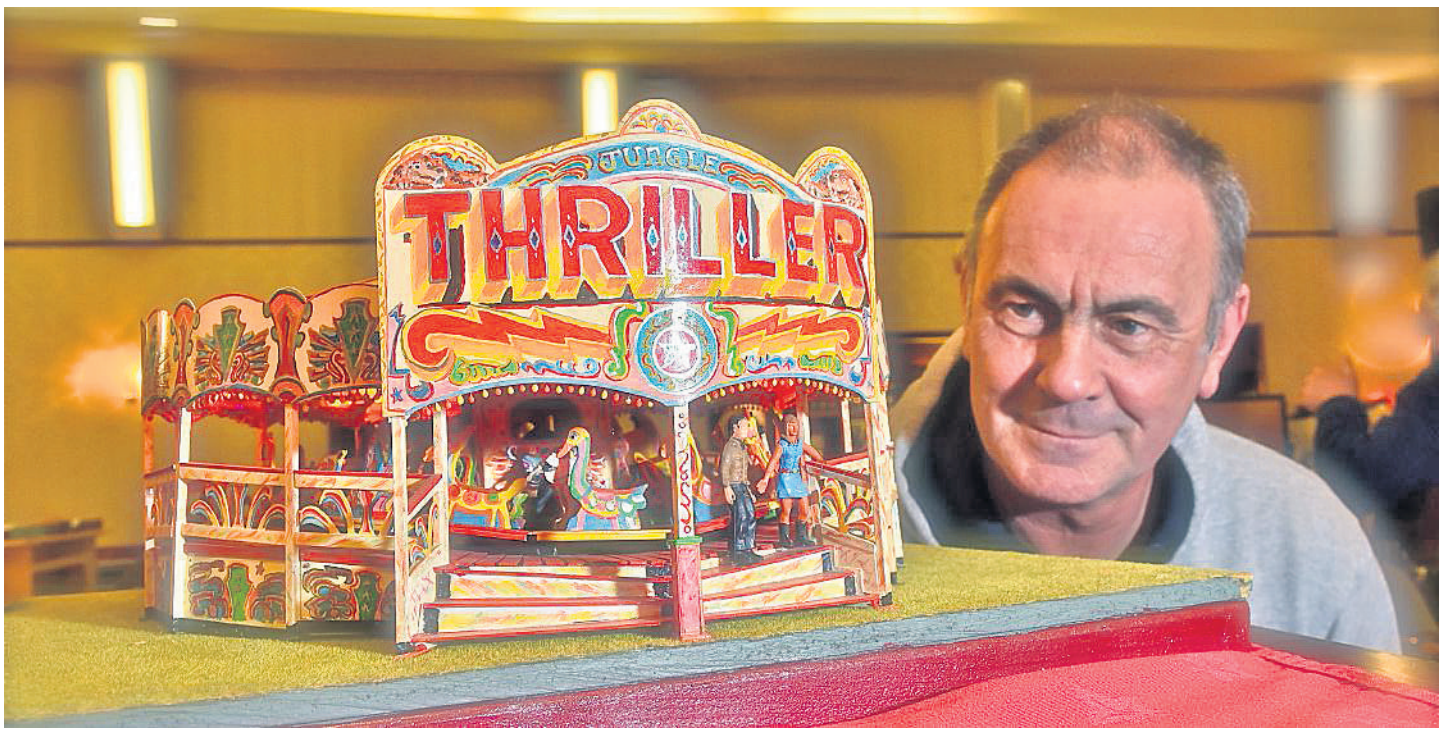
I WOULD like to thank all the staff who dealt with me recently at Ormskirk walk-in centre.

I received an excellent service, the staff were lovely, smiling and very helpful and professional. They put me at my ease and reassured me and gave excellent advice and I didn't have to wait long. What a great service. Well done to them.

I have been to this walk-in centre before with a neighbour who had a problem and again the service was excellent.

Jane Thompson, Station Road, Ormskirk

PICTURE of the week



Model making enthusiast Tim O'Connor, from Skelmersdale, brought a nostalgic look back to fairground rides from the '50s and 60s to last Sunday's Model Show hosted by Burscough's Stanley Club. Funds raised at the event went to Queenscourt Hospice. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Drop us a line...

■ **IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?**

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors and are NOT necessarily endorsed or advocated in any way by Champion Newspapers.

All animal lovers should chip in to help rescue centre survive

Tmy dog in the park and talking to like-minded friends I was most upset to to be told that Freshfields/Ince Blundell, the animal rescue charity, were now considering closing the centre because of lack of funds.

I was informed their costs are so big as they are looking after approaching 700 animals at their two centres.

They never turn an animal away if they can help. We took a young hedgehog there in November. It was taken in and treated immediately.

As Sefton and West Lancs residents know, Freshfields, over the last 40 years, have been one of the few places in this wide area where people can take lost or abandoned animals, no longer wanted pets and injured or sick wildlife animals, and know they will be looked after.

Although the charity is run efficiently it must cost a lot of money to run. It has now been said that staff have been on half-pay for a considerable time.

A main reason for their present difficulties is losing the large premises they rented, to show and sell donated items of furniture. The charity raised a considerable amount of funds from this shop.

I do feel that most animal lovers of this area appreciate the excellent work the charity does and I do know they receive a lot of help and support from local helpers but then the wider population do dismiss the fact this work costs a lot of money.

I therefore ask all local animal lovers to chip in and donate to this excellent service. I will be sending them a cheque and I hope this letter sparks the same response from your readers.

Perhaps some local business could donate or sponsor this charity on an annual basis. I am sure it would be noted and appreciated by the community.

Please help.

Frank Morley, animal lover

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Health commissioners' board meeting open to public

HEALTHCARE commissioners in West Lancashire will hold their next governing body meeting in public at Hilldale on the Ormskirk Hospital site on Tuesday, March 28 starting at 9.30am.

Members of the local community are welcome to observe the board meeting of NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Questions relating to items on the agenda can also be raised by visiting the governing body page of the CCG's website www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk, or by contacting the secretary to the board directly on 01695 588 144 by noon on Monday, March 27.

The agenda will be published on the website one week before the meeting.

After the governing body meeting, there will also be an opportunity for the public and other attendees to have an informal discussion with some of the board members.

The meeting will run for two hours and will be held in the boardroom, Hilldale, Wigan Road, Ormskirk. Printed copies of the papers are available on request for those without access to the Internet.

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June start date for council's new green bin charge

CHANGES are in the pipeline for residents in West Lancashire who use the council's garden waste collection service.

From June 5 the new charge will be introduced for the collection of garden waste and residents will be able to choose if they wish to use the service.

It will cost £30 per year for one green bin to be emptied. Householders will also be able to have additional green bins emptied at a cost of £25 for each additional bin.

Councillor Kevin Wilkie

Councillor Kevin Wilkie, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for street scene services, said: "We are advising residents now that changes are on the way, so that they can take time to decide whether they wish to use the council's service.

"The council took the difficult decision to introduce charges for garden waste collections due to the challenging financial position it faces, primarily because of reductions in government grants. Many other councils have introduced similar charges."

In April, the council will deliver a leaflet to every household in the borough giving information about how to sign up and pay, and further details of the service. Information is also provided on the council's website at www.westlancs.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Residents will be able to sign up and pay from Wednesday, April 19 if they want the council to collect their garden waste.

The free garden waste collection service will finish on Friday, June 2 and the new service will start on Monday, June 5.

Residents will need to sign up and pay before Monday, May 15 to ensure there is no interruption to collections from their home.

For residents who sign up and pay, there will be no change to collection days and the council will continue to empty green bins every two weeks.

Residents who don't use the service will be able to dispose of garden waste at the household waste recycling centres, or compost it.

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MP welcomes community activities hub for elderly plan

ROSIE Cooper has praised plans for a new forum for elderly care across the North West due to be launched in West Lancashire this week.

The West Lancs MP met Athena Health Care Group's head of healthcare, Gaye Clark and events co-ordinator, Lesley Malone, who are spearheading the launch of the new Community Activities Hub for All Boroughs, to discuss the scheme to bring together care providers to share inspirational ideas once a month.

The hub will be launched at 2pm tomorrow (Thursday, March 16) at The Civic in Southport Road, Ormskirk by Everton FC events organiser, Henry Mooney, who runs a number of events for elderly residents from across the North West.

Skelmersdale Community Singers will sing at the event and there will be light refreshments including tea, coffee and cakes.

The hub will take place once a month at the Civic, with attendees paying a £2 donation each time towards the costs of hosting the meetings.

Speaking after the meeting at her office at the Malthouse Business Centre, Rosie Cooper said: "I was very interested to hear about the plans for the new monthly hub and how it is offering a range of activities for older people, whether living in residential care or in their own home.

"It's a fantastic opportunity for local residents to meet up with their friends or go along to enjoy the company and meet new people for a few hours.

"The wider benefits of the community activity hub are clear for people's mental and physical wellbeing, and in tackling loneliness and isolation. I wish everyone involved in the hub every success with the project in making a difference in people's lives."

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Concern grows for missing teen

AN urgent appeal has been launched to find a teenager who has gone missing from Skelmersdale.

Katie Heron, who lives with her parents and two sisters, was last seen at around 1pm on Wednesday, March 8 at the family home in Ivydale.

The 19-year-old has not been seen by her family since then and they have not been unable to contact by phone as her mobile is seemingly switched off.

Katie is described as white, about 5ft 3in tall with short, dark hair.

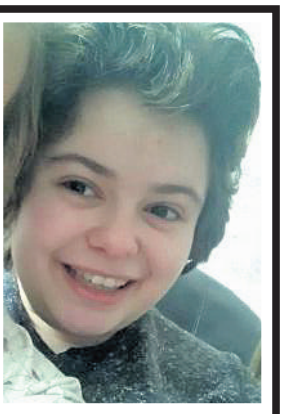
When she was last seen she was wearing a black-and-white dress, leggings, black, knee-high boots and a khaki parka jacket.

She is also thought to have a rucksack with her and could be staying in the Barrow-in-Furness area.

PC Helen Smith of Skelmersdale Police said: "Katie's family are getting increasingly worried about her and we would appeal to anyone who may have seen Katie or knows where she is to get in touch with us.

"Similarly we would urge Katie, if she sees this appeal, to make contact with us so that we can make sure she is safe."

Anyone with information can contact police on 101.



A recent photograph of Katie Heron

Cube to be lit up for Down's Syndrome Day

THE Lightcube on Exchange Island in Skelmersdale will be lit up in red and blue to mark World Down's Syndrome Day on Tuesday (March 21).

West Lancs Council arranged for the structure's computer-controlled fibre-optic lights to be switched on after a request from Skelmersdale mother-of-three Gillian Haworth, whose youngest son, four-year-old Tom, has Down's Syndrome.

Council leader, Ian Moran, said: "I will be delighted to see the Lightcube shining red and blue to mark World Down Syndrome Day, as this is a cause which is close to the hearts of many in West Lancashire."

The Light Cube. Photo by Peter Freeman

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Borough councillors' allowances fixed for four-year period

COUNCILLORS on West Lancashire Borough Council have agreed to keep their basic allowance to £4,842. This is now fixed for a four- year period until March 31, 2020.

At the last full council meeting it was also agreed to reduce the rates currently paid to councillors for business mileage, to reflect the HM Revenue & Customs suggested rates with effect from April 1.

The council currently pays each councillor a basic allowance, with a special allowance for those members with additional responsibilities. Councillors are also paid travel and subsistence allowances and, in certain circumstances, childcare and dependent carer's allowance.

A spokeswoman for the council stated: "The council considers the recommendations from an independent body, the Independent Remuneration Panel, when determining councillors' allowances. The panel carried out a full review in 2015 and recommended that councillors' basic and special responsibility allowances should remain the same for four years, which was agreed by council in February 2016. There was no change to this policy at the meeting on February 22 2017.

"However council agreed to reduce the rates currently paid to councillors for business mileage, to reflect rates suggested by HM Revenue and Customs with effect from April 1, 2017."

Still time to grab share of £75,000 charity fund

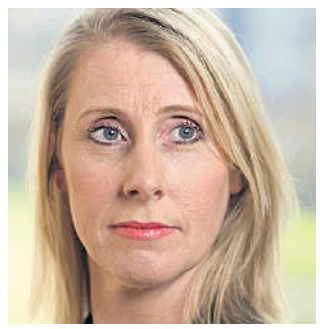
THERE is still time for community groups in West Lancashire to apply for a £5,000 grant as part of a bank's £75,000 charity hand-out.

The deadline for applications to Yorkshire Bank's Spirit of the Community Awards 2017 has been extended to next Friday, March 24.

The awards programme was launched earlier this year to recognise and support community projects which are going the extra mile.

Registered charities and not-for-profit organisations are invited to enter their projects into the awards scheme under one of three categories:

- **Projects which help people to have a healthy relationship with money.**



Debbie Crosbie

- **Projects which help people to improve their local environment.**
- **Projects which help people into employment.**

The awards are open to a range of initiatives across the third sector which can demonstrate support for the community. This could include projects helping to upskill people for the workplace, ventures promoting healthy relationships with money, or schemes aiming to protect the environment.

Five projects will be selected in each of the three categories and all 15 winners will be awarded £5,000 each.

Debbie Crosbie, chair of the Yorkshire and Clydesdale Bank Foundation, said: "The standard of entries over the last four years has been fantastic and we look forward to continuing our support for local communities again this year."

The winners will be announced this summer. For more information or to enter visit ybonline.co.uk/foundation

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CASE STUDY: 7 Figure Settlement For Catastrophic Injuries

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We represented an 8 year old boy, who was hit by a car that was being driven too fast. He suffered a terrible brain injury which, amongst other things, has left him blind, with no purposeful movement, needing to be fed by naso-gastric tube and in need of constant attendance. His life expectancy is severely reduced due to the accident.

Before the accident he had his whole life ahead of him with parents who had every reason to expect him to be successful in whatever direction his education took him.

The accident changed his life completely and it also changed the lives of his parents and his siblings.

Our task was to try to establish that the fault for the accident lay 100% with the driver of the vehicle which knocked him down and to secure the compensation appropriate for his injuries whilst also covering his future needs.

In catastrophic injury cases, a top quality team of lawyers is essential and with determination and tenacity, we persuaded the insurers to admit liability on a 100% basis and a 7 figure settlement was negotiated. It has resulted in various past and future losses being paid, not least the protection of his ongoing care and accommodation needs for the rest of his life.

Our client is greatly loved and cherished by his devoted family and whilst our work in this case is done, the contact between DPP Law and the child's parents will continue. Why? Because of the strong and trusting relationship we were able to build with the parents who knew that every possible step was being taken in the best interests of their son.

DPP Law is there for you if you need us, as the parents of this child found out following that fateful day when their lives changed forever.

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Animal sanctuary staff advise early health checks for family pets

STAFF at Woodlands Animal Sanctuary are stressing the importance of early health checks for family pets after a young cat which came into their care recently was found to have a heart condition which will require costly treatment and reduce its lifespan.

Ten-month-old Jiggly arrived at the Holmeswood-based charity following a change in home circumstances and was found to have a heart murmur and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or thickening of the heart muscle. As a result he will have to have a monthly scan and costly medication.

Vickie Maude from Woodlands said: "Unfortunately with this diagnosis his life expectancy is significantly reduced. We have started him on a medication programme to slow down the enlarging of the heart although it may only give him a few extra months. Had he been diagnosed earlier it would not have stopped the disease, but earlier treatment could have given him an extended lifespan."

Chance to join in Rangers' ramble

MEMBERS of the public are invited to take part in a walk organised by West Lancs Council's Parks and Countryside Ranger Service on Sunday, March 19.

Walkers wishing to join the eight-mile Lathom Circular walk should meet at the entrance to Ruff Woods on the corner of Vicarage Lane at 9.50am for a 10am start.

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County's new High Sheriff named

New High Sheriff of Lancashire Robert Mitchel Webb

LANCASHIRE'S new High Sheriff has been announced as Robert Mitchel Webb.

Appointed by the Queen each year, the role of High Sheriff dates back more than 1,000 years.

Robert was born and brought up in Belfast, before moving to Lancashire in 1976.

He has spent his working career as managing director of his family business, the John Hogg Group, originally formed in 1890 and with diverse interests including Irish linen, chemical manufacture, property investment and a film studio!

Over the years, Robert has been involved in many aspects of life in Lancashire, serving as a magistrate for 20 years and having been a General Commissioner for Tax.

He has also served as a school governor and trustee and chairman of Cancer Care North Lancashire and South Lakeland.

Robert will be sworn in at a special ceremony on Friday, April 7, taking over the office from the incumbent High Sheriff John Barnett.

Commenting on his appointment, he said: "I consider it a great honour to be nominated as the next High Sheriff of Lancashire, and shall do my best to maintain the long and rich traditions of the office. I shall also be delighted to assist in any way possible our voluntary and charitable enterprises, which play such vital roles in our county."

Council want your views on next Local Plan

Consultation period starts tomorrow

WEST Lancs Council is working on a new Local Plan and wants to hear residents' views on 'this extremely important document'.

A Local Plan guides how the borough develops over a specific time period and can cover everything from where new homes, employment sites and retail and leisure facilities should be situated, to policies on transport, local services, energy and the environment.

The current Local Plan covers up to 2027 and the council is in the early stages of forming the next plan. It is asking local people to comment on a number of significant topics which will shape how the plan develops.

This is called a Scoping and Issues & Options Consultation and the topics include:

- How much housing and employment land development will be required each year.
- What period of time the Local Plan should cover.
- Scenarios on how new development should be spread across the borough.
- Consideration of the infrastructure required to support new development.

In total there are five options papers that residents can read and give their views on. They also cover other important issues such as the economy, the environment and social issues such as affordable housing and providing for an ageing population.

Councillor John Hodson

Councillor John Hodson, the council's portfolio holder for planning, said: "I would urge people living and working in West Lancashire to take part in this consultation as this will influence how the new Local Plan takes shape."

The consultation starts tomorrow (Thursday, March 16) and you can view all the relevant documents and complete the survey form at www.westlancs.gov.uk/localplan from that date.

The closing date for people to respond is Friday, April 28.

If you are unable to access the survey online you can also send your written comments to localplan@westlancs.gov.uk, or Local Plan Team, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF.

You can also see the documents at the council offices at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, and the Customer Service Point at the Concourse Shopping Centre, Skelmersdale, as well as at libraries in the borough.

A number of public consultation events, for which places must be booked, are also planned as following:

Monday, March 27, 7 to 9pm at The Grove, Burscough.

Wednesday, March 29, 7 to 9pm at the Ecumenical Centre, Skelmersdale.

Monday, April 3, 7 to 9pm at Parbold WI Hall, The Common, Parbold.

Thursday, April 6, 7 to 9pm at Chapel Gallery, St Helens Road, Ormskirk.

Monday, April 10, 7 to 9pm at Halsall Memorial Hall, Halsall.

Wednesday, April 12, 7 to 9pm at Tarleton Academy, Tarleton.

To book a place at one of the above events or for further information on the consultation, call the council's Local Plan Team on 01695 585194. All reasonable comments received will be considered in taking the Local Plan forward.

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John & Yvonne xxx
AMANDA ROBINSON

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Search is on for the 'Pride' of local health services

DO you know a member of staff working at our hospitals or community health services who deserves special recognition?

Members of the public are being invited to nominate a member of staff at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust for an honour in the annual Pride Awards.

Iinterim chief executive, Iain McInnes, said: "The People's Choice Award is a fantastic way for patients and families to show their individual appreciation to a particular member of staff or team for the treatment or care they have received."

Any member of staff, in any role, is eligible for a nomination providing they work for the trust. Nominations for the People's Choice Award close on Saturday, April 8.

To make a nomination, go to the trust website and follow the link from the front page. Alternatively you can contact the trust on 01704 704714 for a nomination form.

The Pride Awards, now in their ninth year, are for hospital staff and teams or those working in community health services, who deserve special recognition for their excellence and professionalism.

In addition to the People's Choice Award, staff are invited to nominate their colleagues in a further six categories.

There are also special awards for outstanding achievement and lifetime achievement.

The awardswill be presented at the Floral Hall, Southport on Friday, June 16.

Staff from the Medical Day Unit at Southport Hospital who were winners of the People's Choice Award in 2016.

breatheeasy
British Lung Foundation Support Network

Chance to learn about good lung health

RESIDENTS in West Lancashire suffering from respiratory health conditions are invited to attend a special free lung health event organised by the NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the British Lung Foundation (BLF), Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust and the Breathe Easy Group West Lancashire.

The 'Breathe Easy' event to be held on Monday, March 20 at the Toby Carvery in County Road, Ormskirk from 1 to 3pm, is open to any West Lancashire resident, who is living with a respiratory health condition, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma and bronchiectasis, as well as any residents who want to learn more about good lung health.

On the day, there will be guest speakers, including Dr Sacha Youzgin, a respiratory consultant from the Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, who will discuss how people living with lung disease can look after their health; and Mel Reardon, a clinical specialist physiotherapist, who is also based at the hospital trust.

There will also be the opportunity to take part in a 'Power of Music' taster session and the chance to meet members of the local Breathe Easy group, as well as local health care professionals, including West Lancs CVS.

Sandra Bonner, an advanced respiratory nurse specialist for West Lancashire, said:

"Respiratory health conditions are typically complex and something that people live with for a long time, therefore events like this are so important, as they help people to understand how to manage their condition and symptoms.

"Often those patients living with a respiratory health condition can face long stays in hospital or admissions to A&E, which could be avoided if they knew how to manage their condition better themselves, in the comfort of their own home.

"This event is aimed specifically at residents living with a respiratory health condition, but I would also recommend that anyone with an interest in good lung health come along. You don't need to register in advance, so just pop along on the day."

For more information about the event, the local Breathe Easy monthly support group, or to speak to an expert about their lung condition, residents can contact the British Lung Foundation on 03000 030 555 or email helpline@blf.org.uk.

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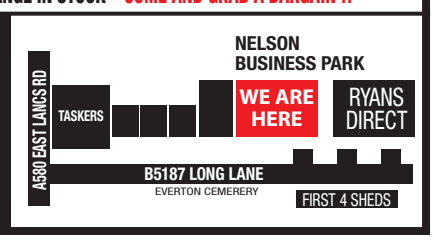

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The new toilet facilities at The Civic

Civic team flushed with success after grant funds toilet upgrade

STAFF at The Civic in Ormskirk are feeling flushed with success after the toilets at the venue were successfully upgraded!

Facilities at the hall in Southport Road were refurbished after it was awarded a grant of £14,597 from the Whitemoss Community Fund.

The fund offers grants of between £5,000 and £20,000 to fund community and environmental projects in West Lancashire that are located within five miles of the Whitemoss landfill site in Skelmersdale.

The Civic has more than 400 people through its doors every week and the previous facilities had not been changed since the 1960s!

The new facilities include child-friendly toilets, a baby-changing area and a modernised disability-accessible toilet.

A spokeperson for The Civic said: "Refurbishing the toilets has enabled us to fulfil one of our core values which is to ensure that The Civic is accessible for every member of our community. We now have the facilities to match this commitment."

Rob Routledge, chairman of the Whitemoss Community Fund's advisory committee added: "We're delighted to have been able to support yet another deserving project in West Lancashire.

"Since 2010, the Whitemoss Community Fund has donated £335,000 which has been shared between 29 local projects for the direct benefit of local residents."

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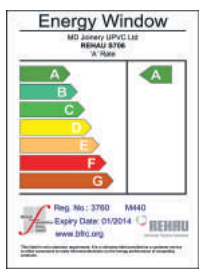

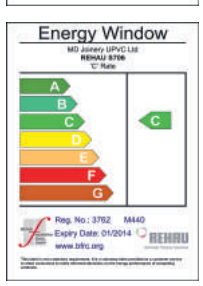

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Hair salons with TVs but no licence risk brush with the law

OWNERS of hairdressers and barbers in West Lancashire who have televisions without the legal licensing could risk having a brush with the law.

The TV Licence group has issued a warning after the rising trend of businesses putting screens in the waiting area and also in front of individual chairs.

Some forward-thinking salons are even offering iPads and tablets to customers so they can access on-demand TV services.

But in order to legally do this, salons need a TV Licence or they risk prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

In 2016 ten salons across the UK were prosecuted for licence fee evasion, and in the last financial year, TV Licensing enquiry officers visited more than 36,000 unlicensed businesses, including hair salons and barbers shops.

Matthew Thompson, TV Licensing spokesperson, said: "With many salons mounting small TV screens by each chair or providing hand-held tablets so customers don't miss a minute of their best-loved TV shows, hairdressers are making sure TV is more accessible than ever before. But it's important salon owners and managers take a few moments to review and update their licensing requirements.

"Cutting corners, rather than hair, could land the owner in court and facing a fine of up to £1,000. A TV Licence is just a 'snip' at £145.50, and there are many ways for businesses to pay, including BACS electronic transfer, direct debit or cheque."

Hilary Hall, chief executive of the National Hairdressers' Federation, added: "Reading a magazine in the chair is still very popular, but some clients enjoy watching TV while they're having their hair cut or styled and someone having a treatment can be in the chair or under the dryer for a couple of hours.

"The NHF regularly reminds salons that if anyone will be watching TV in the workplace they need to have a TV licence."

An example of a hairdressing salon with TV screens

Village community centre AGM

THE annual general meeting of Hesketh Bank Community Centre will be held on Thursday, April 6 and village residents are invited to go along to find out plans for the future of the venue. Tea and biscuits will be served from 7.30pm in the front hall. For more information email hwbvcc@gmail.com or call 07784 942127.

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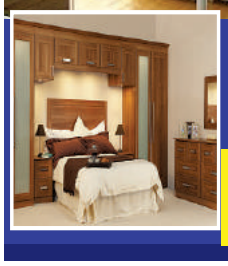

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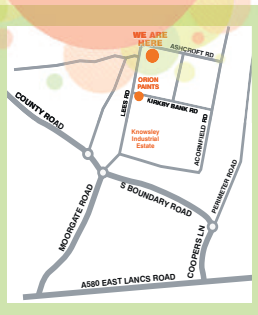

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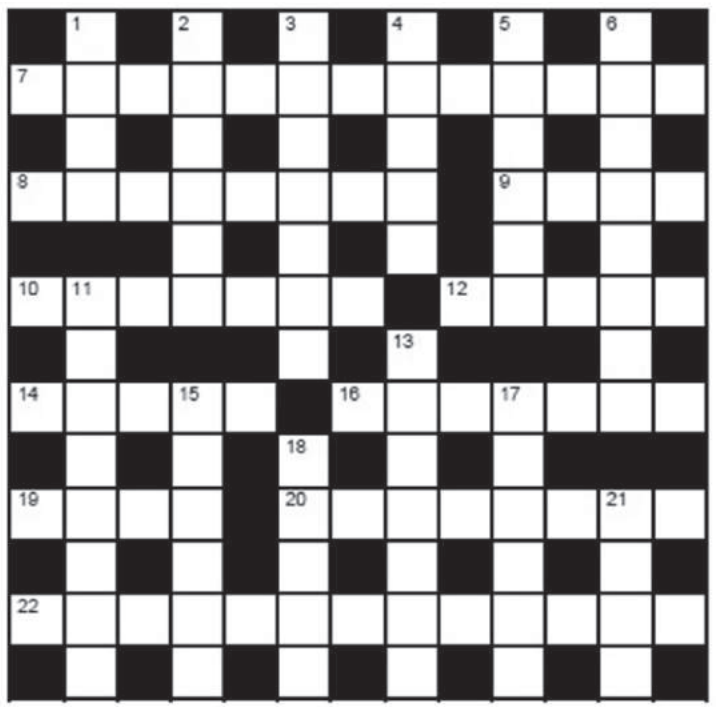

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Stooge. 8 Cursor. 9 Germ. 10 Knitting. 11 Ottoman. 13 Worry. 15 Amuse. 17 Airfare. 20 Pharisee. 21 Debt. 22 Bureau. 23 Review.

Down: 1 Street. 2 Roam. 3 Weekday. 4 Acrid. 5 Write-off. 6 Corner. 12 Observer. 14 Sidearm. 16 Mahout. 18 Robber. 19 Issue. 21 Diva.

ACROSS

7. Female heir to a throne in some countries (5, 8)
8. Tree-covered area (8)
9. Pouting expression used to convey annoyance (4)
10. Of or relating to the lymph glands - (7)
12. Competitor, opponent (5)
14. The entrails and internal organs of an animal used as food (5)
16. Marked with spots or patches of different shades or colours (7)
19. Young, uncastrated male horse (4)
20. Mild dislike or aversion (8)
22. Task that can't be done quickly is said to be this (4-9)

DOWN

1. Therefore (4)
2. Scandinavian country (6)
3. Inability to understand or produce speech, as a result of brain damage (7)
4. One of the official languages of India (5)
5. Norway lobsters when prepared or cooked (6)
6. Kiss (8)
11. Bulbous European plant which typically bears bright yellow flowers (8)
13. Own (7)
15. Song such as God Save The Queen (6)
17. Distressing or disturbing experience (6)
18. Stupid person (5)
21. Any of several large food and game fishes of temperate and tropical seas (4)

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‘Grand’ gesture will help fund dementia links project events

OLDER people in West Lancashire living with dementia are set to benefit from a £1,000 donation to Age UK Lancashire’s Wellbeing Centre in Ormskirk to support extra activities and events.

The grant was awarded from Lancashire County Council’s Community Wellbeing Fund to support people living with dementia or memory concerns and their carers and families in the borough.

The number of people diagnosed with dementia is increasing every year and organisations such as Age UK Lancashire provide vital support to those with a diagnosis and their support network.

The dementia community links project run by the charity enables people to continue doing activities they enjoy as well as staying involved in the community and trying new hobbies.

Caroline Thompson from Age UK Lancashire said: “We are delighted to receive this money as the events will provide the opportunity for local people, their carers, family members, friends and key partners to attend fun, informative and social events that will be themed around a traditional Lancashire day and bygone times.

“We are hoping to make each event slightly different and would encourage anyone living locally to come along and get involved.”

The first event is planned for April. For more information ring 0300 303 1234.

Pictured at the presentation are Caroline Thompson, dementia community links manager for Age UK Lancashire; Gary Heron, centre manager for Age UK Lancashire; and County Councillor Nikki Hennessy

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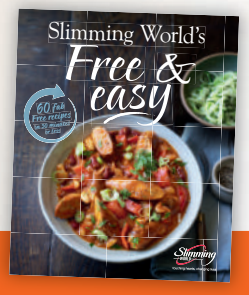

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The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
Monday 1.00pm
Sue: 07817444580

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Monday 6.30pm
Michelle: 07931125172

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
Monday 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

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Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
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Monday 5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

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The Wardens Club, Blaguegate Lane,
Monday 5pm & 7pm
Kathy: 01695 423 658

TUESDAY
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The Wardens Club, Blaguegate Lane,
Tuesday 9.15 & 11.15am
Kathy: 01695 423 658

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Eileen: 0151 548 0658

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Wednesday 9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
Wednesday 5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
4.30 & 6.30pm
Sue: 07957 531 346

UP HOLLAND
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Wednesday 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
Wednesday 9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

THURSDAY
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MAGHULL
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DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
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DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
Thursday 4.30pm & 6.30pm
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SATURDAY
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Beech Close *(Off Lancaster Cres)*
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Private Function Room, County Road
8.00am
Hayley 07583 762529

ORMSKIRK
St Anne’s School, Aughton St, Ormskirk
10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
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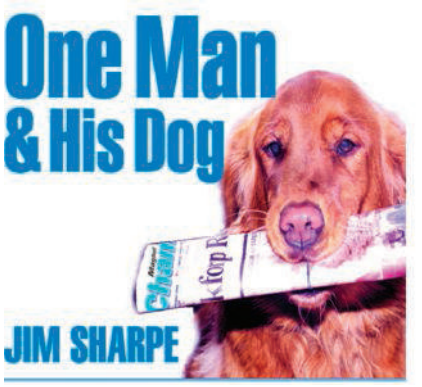

Matt and mates are gearing up to be top hosts

THEY’VE got it right - second time around.

You may remember that I was a fan of *Top Gear*, the BBC’s, ostensibly at least, motoring programme, which in reality was really a raucous and most definitely non-PC entertainment based around motor cars - usually fast and loud ones.

Say what you like about Jeremy Clarkson - and I sometimes have - and his friends May and Hammond, but to me they were a breath of fresh air in a world where it is quickly becoming almost impossible to criticise anything or anybody without being immediately pilloried as being one ‘ist’ or another.

Anyway, thicko Jeremy got the old heave-ho for punching his producer and May and Hammond immediately resigned as well, leaving us, and the Beeb, without *Top Gear*.

Now since this programme, rightly or wrongly, is a top international earner for the BBC, obviously something had to be done. And done it was, with the hapless Chris Evans leading a motley crew of assorted presenters. It was a resounding flop - if flops can resound. Certainly ratings collapsed and the ‘new’ *Top Gear* quietly disappeared.

In fact, the one good thing that this fiasco did throw up was Matt LeBlanc.

And now *Top Gear* is back, and if it is not yet quite up to the Clarkson standard, its gearbox is changing up very quickly I think. Instead of more presenters than cars, we are now back to a team of only three, and if the first episode was anything to go by, I for one will be regularly watching.

Really, the only thing I reckon is missing, and I hope not for long, is the obvious genuine camaraderie between Matt and his new cohorts, Chris Harris and Rory Reid. They made a good stab at it, but it takes time for disparate people to really gel. Still, the signs and portents are good and I really wish them well.

Staying with television, I am hugely enjoying the *Mutiny* programmes in which an assorted crew of brave men are attempting to recreate the epic voyage of Captain William Bligh and the sailors who refused to join the infamous mutiny on the Bounty.

The only slight niggle is that of course there is a rescue vessel on hand a few miles astern of our heroes. I certainly do not think this safety net should not be in place, but it must have an effect on the mental outlook of those concerned. After all, in the original, a mistake could certainly have cost you your life and you didn’t have the option of saying you’d had enough and were going home!

Anyway, I’m glad that Captain Bligh’s tremendous achievement in navigating a 23ft boat 4,000 miles to safety is being given a proper airing. I reckon folk generally have given Bligh a bad name, solely on the spurious ‘historic’ contributions of Hollywood.

Bligh was known to be a good and fair - if tough - captain, who, apart from his almost unbelievable feat of navigation, went on to record a successful career in the Royal Navy. He very nearly took part in the Battle of Trafalgar (his ship was simply too far away and arrived after the battle was won).

In fact, the movie industry has always had the power to make or break reputations, sometimes quite unfairly. We all know how America won the Battle of Britain, for instance.

At sea though, if you discount some spurious ‘facts’ in those propaganda war films, things have often gone quite well. The film *A Night to Remember* about the sinking of RMS Titanic, for instance, is widely regarded as being very close to what actually happened; or indeed, *The Battle of the River Plate*', in which the German captain Hans Langsdorff is quite rightly portrayed as a humane and reasonable man.

I’d bet that had this been an American film he too, like William Bligh, would have become a monster.

Call for tougher action on hare coursing trespassers

AN organisation which represents landowners, farmers and rural businesses in England and Wales is calling for tougher action on criminals who trespass on farm land to undertake betting activity in the form of hare coursing.

The practice, which is illegal under the Wildlife Act 1831 and the Hunting Act 2014, normally takes place on areas of open land between the months of September and March when crops are low and the 'chase' can be filmed. The activity attracts high stakes and the dogs used are of great value to their owners.

The CLA has been campaigning for greater intervention from the police to help tackle the problem by launching a public awareness campaign in Lancashire, Humberside and West Yorkshire and encouraging members of the public to record and report suspicious activity.

Last week John Glen MP secured an adjournment debate in the House of Commons to press the Minister for Policing, Brandon Lewis, for tougher sentencing for criminals and encouragement for greater use of police powers. The CLA highlighted the blight of hare coursing by providing a briefing to some 200 rural MPs ahead of the debate.

The CLA is calling for tougher action on criminals who trespass on farm land to bet on hare coursing

In his response the minister gave an assurance that he will liaise with the Ministry of Justice to establish what guidance is given to the courts and the Sentencing Council over the fines imposed on the convicted criminals. This commitment was given in response to complaints from MPs that fines imposed on offenders are too lenient.

CLA Director North, Dorothy Fairburn, said: "Fines imposed under the Hunting Act are unlimited, yet too often they amount to just a few hundred pounds. This is not an effective deterrent for a lucrative crime. The police are able to seize vehicles and dogs - both of which would have a direct impact on hare courses.

"Police forces have the power to tackle these criminals but they need evidence to catch perpetrators and bring them to justice. This is why we encourage people to record and report any suspicious activity to the police. This can be done by dialling 101 to speak to your local police force or contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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World Glaucoma Week

March 12–18, 2017

Glaucoma... The Silent Thief Of Sight

The International Glaucoma Association (IGA) have launched a million pound health information campaign to raise awareness of glaucoma and encourage people to have regular eye examinations.

The campaign begins by highlighting research findings that men are at greater risk of losing their sight than women because they ignore warning signs and do not seek medical attention. The research, which focused on glaucoma, was carried out by City University and showed that men are 16% more likely than women to suffer advanced vision loss on diagnosis of the condition.

Consultant ophthalmic surgeon and glaucoma specialist, for iSIGHT Clinic, Southport and Aintree University Hospital, Mr Vincent Dubois, offers some insight on detecting and living with Glaucoma.

Unfortunately, there are no symptoms from early glaucoma. By the time a patient has symptoms, it is usually too late. This is why glaucoma has been described as the 'silent thief of sight'. It affects 600,000 in the UK and more that 64 million people worldwide making it the leading cause of irreversible blindness globally.

The safest way to protect ourselves from glaucoma is to regularly attend a local high-street Optician. Apart from prescribing and issuing glasses, an Optometrist can carry out tests to see whether a patient has Glaucoma. Glaucoma is a disease of the optic nerve, the nerve that captures light and sends that light to the brain where an image is generated, giving you 'sight'. A diseased optic nerve does not see well and in some cases,

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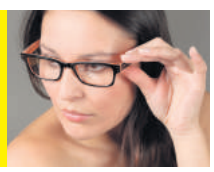

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This collaborative project between the World Glaucoma Association and the World Glaucoma Patient Association contributes to the elimination of glaucoma blindness by alerting people to have regular eye checks, including optic nerve checks.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

patients can lose their sight from this condition. Those who are most at risk of Glaucoma are generally, the elderly, patients with Indian, Asian or African origins, and those who have a family member who is already affected by the disease.

The good news is glaucoma can be treated, we use eye drops, lasers and surgery to stop or slow down the condition. However, we cannot restore any sight already lost, hence the importance of early detection whilst people are free of any symptoms. 9 out of 10 patients do not need surgery.

A lot of patients ask, will it stop me from driving? The answer is, only if they have it in both eyes AND it is severe. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that they meet DVLA requirements. A person must inform the DVLA if they have glaucoma in both eyes. In this instance the DVLA will arrange for them to have some further testing done, which will determine their eligibility to hold a UK Driving License. Class 2 license holders have more stringent requirements.

Remember, with early detection, from regular eye tests, and appropriate treatment very few patients have sight problems from Glaucoma. This is a condition that patients tend to live with, not suffer from. However, there are local support groups in place to help inform and educate people about the condition.

For more information visit:
www.glaucoma-association.com

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

The importance of regular eye tests for maintaining sight

With an ageing population and more people facing the prospect of working later into life, it has never been more important to look after our health; both to maintain our ability to work, and to be able to enjoy life to the full.

Eyesight is key to getting the most out of life, but it's also an aspect of health that is often overlooked. So what steps can we take to ensure our eyes remain at their sharpest?

Specsavers is working with the International Glaucoma Association (IGA) on a health information campaign to raise awareness of the importance of regular eye examinations. The £1m initiative will coincide with World Glaucoma Week, which runs from March 12-18.

'We're all familiar with the usual steps we can take to maintain a healthy lifestyle as we get older,' says Dr Nigel Best, Specsavers' clinical spokesperson. 'Fitbits and apps on our mobiles monitor our steps and sleep patterns – but our eye health can easily be neglected.'

RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) and Specsavers' 'State of the Nation' report revealed that nearly 14 million people in the UK are not having their eyes tested every two years as recommended.

'Conditions that can often affect our eyes over the age of 40 range from high blood pressure to age-related macular degeneration and can be detected by an optician during the course of a regular eye examination,' Dr Best adds. 'The earlier any such conditions are picked up the higher the chance of successfully treating them, which is why we recommend eye tests every two years.'

Glaucoma – often described as the 'thief of sight' due to its gradual onset – is one such condition that is more easily managed the sooner it is detected. It affects 600,000 people in the UK and more than 64 million people worldwide making it the leading cause of irreversible blindness globally.

Karen Osborn, Chief Executive of the IGA, says: 'Glaucoma is found in 2% of the UK's population aged over 40. Most of those people have a slow developing form of the condition and we estimate that half of all cases – that's over 300,000 people – remain undiagnosed and are unaware that they could be slowly losing their sight.'

RNIB and Specsavers' research also revealed the total cost to the UK economy of sight loss in the adult population of the UK totalled £28.1 billion, leading to a huge burden on the economy due to easily preventable vision-related issues.

Sally Harvey, CEO of RNIB, adds: 'At least half of all sight loss is preventable. Regular eye tests and early detection on the high street, followed by timely intervention and management of eye health conditions, could help save your sight.'

To donate to the IGA, text TEST17 £5 TO 70700. [Charity registered in England and Wales No. 274681 and Scotland No. SC041550]

For more information log onto
www.glaucoma-association.com
www.specsavers.co.uk/eye-health/glaucoma
or
www.rnib.org.uk

International Glaucoma Association iga RNIB Specsavers

World Glaucoma Week 12 - 18 March

IT'S AMAZING WHAT WE CAN SEE THROUGH YOUR EYES

An eye test can keep your eyes healthy and detect a range of health conditions. Book yours today.

To book an eye test visit specsavers.co.uk

International Glaucoma Association iga RNIB Specsavers

World Glaucoma Week 12 - 18 March

A regular test is at least once every two years. ©2017 Specsavers. All rights reserved.

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Call to check for signs of malnutrition

A LEADING charitable association working to combat malnutrition, is urging everyone that is caring for someone who is elderly or vulnerable to take time to check they are not at risk of malnutrition during Nutrition & Hydration week (March 13-17).

BAPEN, a multi-professional association and registered charity established in 1992, says malnutrition is a major clinical and public health problem that is usually only detected when a person is admitted to hospital but originates in the community when people at risk are living in their own home but unable to look after themselves properly.

It can affect anyone and may be caused by an inadequate diet or a problem absorbing nutrients from food. This may be the result of common issues such as a recent stay in hospital; a long-term health condition; low income; or bereavement or social isolation.

Mystery of 'disappearing' cycle scheme stand solved

A RESIDENT'S concerns about the 'disappearance' of the automated cycle hire stand at Ormskirk bus station have been addressed by West Lancs Council who have blamed government funding cuts.

Under the scheme, users could hire a bike from £1 per hour any time of the day, seven days a week using a mobile phone and a debit card at any of the bike stands across Lancashire -including the one at the bus station in Moor Street which has since been removed.

Local resident Barrie French contacted the Champion commenting: "The cycle bay at Ormskirk bus station has disappeared. Cycles were mentioned in the Ormskirk masterplan about 30 or 40 times as a way to get people around Ormskirk and out of cars. I'd like to know who paid for the installation and what did it cost?"

A spokesperson for the borough council responded: "The automated cycle hire stand at Ormskirk bus station was part of a wider network across Sefton and West Lancashire that were initially installed and funded through the VISIT West Lancashire Project. This was a joint scheme between Sefton and West Lancashire councils which received government funding.

"Following cessation of government funding for the VISIT project, a review was undertaken of the cycle hire stands to assess whether their retention was a viable proposition. In the case of the one positioned at the bus station, it had only been used on a small number of occasions and had been susceptible to vandalism. Retention of the stand was not therefore considered to be financially viable.

The automated cycle hire station at Ormskirk bus station, which has now been removed

"Other cycle hire stands that were installed as part of the VISIT project remain and these include two stands at Edge Hill University which are available to the public all year round. A further stand is located at the Ship Inn, Lathom and is available from April to September.

"West Lancashire Borough Council is keen to improve facilities for cyclists and is looking to establish a high-quality, accessible network for green infrastructure and cycling in the borough."

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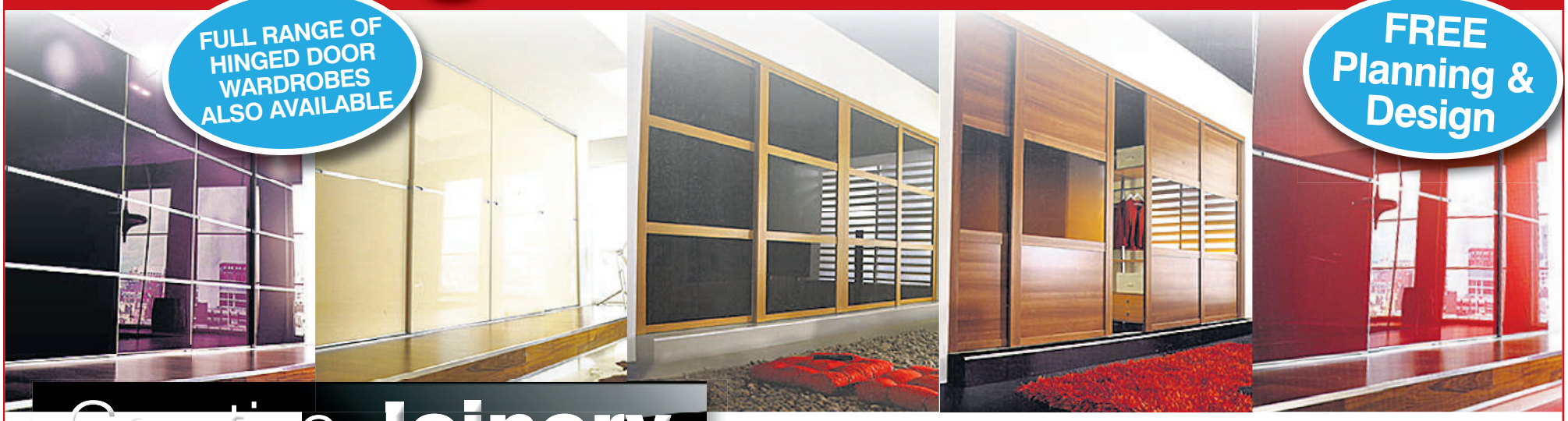

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Warriors are aiming for the top after netting sponsor deal

THE newly-formed Ormskirk & West Lancs Warriors basketball club have netted a first major success in their bid for glory in the Basketball England National League - by winning sponsorship from tissue makers, SCA.

The Warriors have under-14s and under-16s teams with members selected in a development programme from the top young players across West Lancashire and further afield, including Ormskirk, Skelmersdale, Tarleton and Southport.

And to help the teams get established in their first season in the national league, SCA's Skelmersdale mill has stepped in with a £250 sponsorship to buy kit and a new promotional banner.

Warriors' co-founder Gavin Dunne, a former professional basketball player who now works at the SCA mill as a member of the site security team, said: "SCA's support has been a real boost.

"The Ormskirk and West Lancs community club offers basketball from ages six through to adult, but we wanted to create the Warriors as a development programme.

"The under-14s have improved immensely this season, whilst the under-16s are showing themselves as one of the strongest teams in the league and may only narrowly miss out on a play-off spot."

SCA is a leading global hygiene and forest products company and its Skelmersdale mill on Pimbo Road produces paper tissues, including the household brand Velvet and commercial brand Tork, as well as 'own brand' products for leading supermarket chains.

Mill manager, Stefan Montarius, said: "It's great that this new development programme has been created for the young players and we wish them every success in the national league."

Anyone interested in getting involved in the club can find out more at www.westlancsbasketball.co.uk or by emailing OWLbasketballclub@gmail.com.

Aiming for the top...members of the Ormskirk & West Lancs Warriors Basketball Club

Skem boxer Steve Brogan is aiming to be contesting titles this year

Steve has title fights in sights

SKELMERSDALE boxer Steve Brogan will be looking to extend his 100% professional record when he takes to the ring again on a card at the Robin Park Centre in Wigan on Friday, March 24, against Welshman Henry Janes.

In his most recent contest the 33-year-old lightweight made it 10 wins out of 10 with a knock-out victory over Joe Ducker at Leigh Sports Village in December.

Steve, who is now training full time under the guidance of coach Dave Tonks at Speke, is also set to feature on the undercard of the Martin Murray-Gabriel Rosado bill at Liverpool's Echo Arena on Saturday, April 22 as he builds towards hopefully fighting for a title later this year.

He said: "I am now training full time and would like to thank the local businesses who are sponsoring me - my main sponsor, Darren Pugh of DTP Rail, plus Joe Sterling of Sterling Motors, Gary Higgins at SCC car & camper conversions, Caliper Engineering, Wigan, Terry McHugh of Amigos and Bruce Skinner of Mr Sign.

"With their help and support, hopefully, I will be challenging for titles this year but we are always looking for more sponsors and any amount would be appreciated."

Anyone interested in sponsoring Steve or buying tickets for the Robin Park date can contact him directly on @steseriousbrogan.

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advertising feature

Mum's The Word!

Sunday 26th March

Mum. Mother. Mummy. Whatever you call her, Sunday 26th March is Mother's Day, and quite rightly it is all about her.

A special 24 hours set aside once a year to pay tribute to Mothers' endless hard work, selflessness and unconditional love and support.

How do you best describe a Mother?

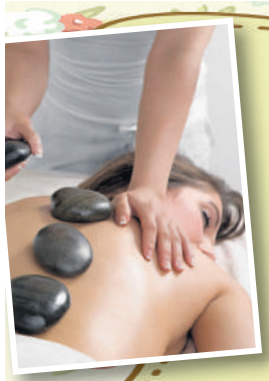
- Her love is the deepest. She protects you like no other. She's your doctor, your teacher and very often your best friend.
- She has played one of the biggest roles in shaping the person you become.
- She celebrates your successes and is a shoulder to cry on when things don't go to plan.
- She'll do without the things she wants so that you can have the things you need.

Today is your turn to let her know how special she is.

Treat her to breakfast, buy her a beautiful bouquet of flowers, take her for lunch or afternoon tea or even book her a spa treatment.

Above all, remember, Sunday 26th March is all about showing Mothers how much they are loved and appreciated!

Happy Mother's Day to Mum's everywhere!



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WWT

Martin Mere news

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Award winning canoe safari re-opens WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

Spring is in the air at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre with the first 5 avocets returning to the centre on 19 February as part of the spring migration.

The avocets, now currently 44, will remain at the centre until early August, using the reserve as their breeding ground. In the past, numbers have reached 100 birds and it is hoped that this year could bring record numbers. Avocets spend the winter either on the south coast or in Mediterranean countries and they chose to spend the summer in the UK.

Just 10 years ago, avocets were quite rare in this area but WWT Martin Mere has been able to introduce a number of initiatives to help manage the wetlands, ensuring the habitat is perfect for summer wading birds in the hope to raise the number of birds breeding. These initiatives have included the purchasing of rare breed cattle who act like lawn mowers with their selective grazing patterns, hay making in late summer and early autumn once all of the youngsters have hatched and left their nests, and by controlling the water level we can adapt the habitat for the needs of summer and wintering birds.

Centre Manager, Nick Brooks, said: "The fact that we are continuing to raise numbers of these wading birds is a testament to the reserve wardens for their hard work in making the land suitable for waders to breed. Spring and summer is a really nice time at the centre to watch migrating wader birds and their chicks, and we are looking forward to yet another successful breeding season."

The next month is a cross-over of seasons with 1200 Whooper swans still on the reserve up until mid-March as well as spring migrants arriving at the centre offering fantastic photography opportunities for all visitors to enjoy.

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre is open every day (except Christmas Day) from 9.30am to 4.30pm during winter months and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site http://www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight WWT Wetland Centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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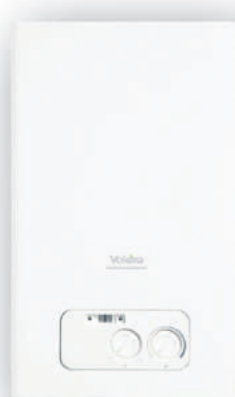

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Actors wanted for Bootle based World War II musical

WATERLOO and Crosby Theatre Company are looking for individuals to play numerous roles in their exciting new musical play, 'Yours' by David Davies, a tale of the Bootle Blitz.

This is a story of family, love, excitement, sorrow and friendship, set in World War Two era Bootle when women wore silk stockings and men signed up for the conflict.

With wonderful music, dancing and storytelling it will have you laughing and crying.

If you are aged between 8 and 80 and can sing, dance or act, please get in touch.

A spokesperson for the company said: "We are specifically looking for young men to play leading roles (acting age 18-25) for the performance in late June and early July.

"If you are interested, please contact Nicci Henshaw at 07490 134581.

Bootle was heavily bombed during WWII

Uni to host free science festival for kids

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

EDGE HILL'S annual free festival of Primary Science will take place later this month, with local primary school children, trainees, teachers and families encouraged to attend.

The Science Under the Stars: Our Fragile Earth event on Friday March 24 (4-7pm) will offer interactive stalls, activities and lectures all focused on helping children to understand our planet; its place in the Solar System and how to take care of it.

More than 20 local and UK organisations will have a presence at the festival, including Liverpool Astronomical Society, Mad Science, Martin Mere, RSPCA, RSPB and West Lancashire Rangers.

The evening will also feature the premiere of 'Our Fragile Earth', a story created by Impossible Theatre together with children from St Philip's C of E Primary School, Liverpool and St Peter's C of E Primary School, Mawdesley.

Frith Murphy, Primary Science Subject Leader at Edge Hill said: "Science Under the Stars: Our Fragile Earth will build on the legacy of Tim Peake's mission to continue to educate and excite primary children about the wonders of our planet. We welcome local primary school children, trainees, teachers and families to this inspiring evening which is free to attend with no booking required."

This event is jointly funded by Edge Hill University and the European Space Education Resource Office.

TIMEWELL'S .co.uk

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4 days £209

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Sun 28th May £119
Sun 27th Aug £119
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*admission to races

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Fri 15th Sept ~ £129

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Fri 24th	Skipton Market & Harrogate	£15.90
Sat 25th	City of York	£15.90
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Tue 28th	Colwyn Bay & Llandudno	£13.90
Wed 29th	Barnard Castle & Highforce Waterfalls	£17.90
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DREAMBOATS AND PETTICOATS
Monday 20th – Saturday 25th

April
LES MCKEOWN'S BAY CITY ROLLERS
Saturday 1st
TOTALLY TINA
Friday 7th
GRIMETHORPE COLLIERY BAND
Saturday 8th
MUSIC & MEMORIES
Wednesday 12th 2.30pm
(Floral Hall)
Pre - show lunch available

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Friday 12th
KEN DODD - HAPPINESS SHOW
Saturday 13th
RUSSELL BRAND - RE:BIRTH
Tuesday 23rd
ONE NIGHT OF ELVIS:
LEE MEMPHIS KING
Friday 26th

June
MR & MISS BRITAIN
Sunday 4th
JOE LONGTHORNE
Wednesday 7th
THE CHICAGO BLUES BROTHERS
Saturday 24th

July
HERE COMES SUMMER
Wednesday 19th 2.30pm
(Floral Hall)
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Saturday 22nd
THE CARPENTERS STORY
Friday 28th
ROY CHUBBY BROWN
Saturday 29th

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Stage stars to 'kill off' Little Theatre's Ian

Ian keeps the Little Theatre going!

IAN Bryden has been playing an important part in the refurbishment of Formby Little Theatre, but now gets his chance to be on stage.

However, as the character who makes enemies of all the rest, one after another from the moment he appears, and in a play called "Whodunnit", it is no surprise he does not survive beyond Act 1!

Anthony Shaffer's comedy thriller has fun with all the conventions of the genre, and even opens with the androgynous voice of the murderer challenging the audience to recognise all the clues he or she will be giving. When the police arrive in Act 2, they are soon baffled too - will they ever identify the killer?

'Whodunit' runs at Formby Little Theatre for the final two weeks of March.

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19, 26 Mar 7, 14, 21 May 4, 11, 18, 25 Jun 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Jul	17, 24, 31 Mar 21 Apr 5, 12 May 2, 9, 16, 30 Jun, 7, 14, 21, 28 Jul	17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 Apr 5, 12, 26 May 2, 9, 16, 30 Jun	20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May 5, 12, 19, 26 Jun

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17, 24, 31 Mar 14 Apr 5, 19, 26 May	27 Mar 3, 17, 24 Apr 1, 15, 22, 29 May

Britannia Hotel
Nottingham
★2 for 1 BAR DEALS 6pm-9pm selected dates★
• Central location • Lift

★2 Nights Arrive Wednesday	★2 Nights Arrive Friday
£69.95	£85
19*, 26* Apr 3*, 10*, 17*, 23*, 31* May 7*, 14*, 21*, 28* Jun	17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr 5, 12, 19 May

Britannia Hotel, Bramhope
Nr Harrogate
★2 for 1 BAR DEALS 6pm-9pm selected dates★
• Lift • Car Park • Indoor Pool

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
from £69.95	from £139.95
17*, 24*, 31* Mar 7, 21 Apr 5, 12, 19 May	20*, 27* Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May

Daresbury Park Hotel
Nr Chester
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★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
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17, 24, 31 Mar 21 Apr 5, 12, 19 May	20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May

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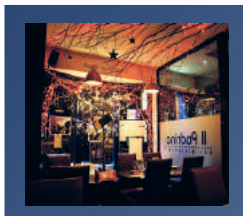

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LADIES BIKE 19" frame, as new condition, 18 Shimano gears, front and rear suspension, colour purple £50 0151 5265124

MOUNTAIN BIKE Gents, good condition, Shimano gears, good tyres, will deliver £40. 07845 529249

LADIES RALEIGH savannah, ex cond, hardly used, 12 gears £55ono. 01704 809935 or 07870 773105

RALEIGH MOUNTAIN bike, gents, full size, shimano gears, good clean bike £45 Southport 214498

CLOTHING

BRIDESMAID DRESS (3 Piece) Boned Bodice, long skirt and stole, worn slightly off the shoulder, size 14, colour sand. Ex condition £20.00 07989677525

MENS BLACK Sterling Hunt Leather Upper and Leather Sole Lace Up Shoes Size 9 1/2 Ex Condition £15.00 07989677525

CUFF LINKS House of Fraser "The Collection" range-silver/royal blue oblong shape. Boxed. Worn once. Classy. £5 07855222552/07821417560

M&S EASYCARE light grey long-sleeved man's shirt-39cm(15.5") collar. Still sealed in wrapper £4 07855222552/07821417560

LADIES RED leather waist length jacket -size 12. No buttons or stud fastenings, narrow belt at the waist. Lovely jacket. VGC. £15 07855222552/07821417560

MEN'S BROWN/TAN leather shoes - size 7. Worn only once. Ex con. Lovely pair of shoes. £8 07855222552/07821417560

LADIES BOOTS makers name 'Rocket Dog' grey suede, size 6, wedge heel fur linings open fronts with lace up feature not worn cost £49.99 new at tk maxx selling for £30 07821417560

M&S DINNER SUIT Jacket size medium 40" trousers 34" waist 29" leg, cost new £175, worn twice. £50 07434841029

LADIES DRESS AND JACKET Fully beaded and black in colour, edge to edge Jacket has long sleeves which is size 14, the dress is a size 16, only worn once, ideal for special occasion, can email photograph. £20 07434841029

LADIES JACKET Red and grey tweed, size 14, wool mix, cost £75. As new. £15 07434841029

GENTS LEATHER JACKET unworn, black, size 3 XL 56/58 premier man £40 0151 9293865

LEATHER SHOES 2 pairs black by Samuel Windsor, size 5 and 6 - never worn, £10 a pair 01704 879591

LEATHER BOOTS Ladies calf length black fashion boots, small heel, pointed toe, size 5 £10 01704 879591

ASTRAKHAN COAT Short faux / fur, mink shade WWF collection, med size £29.99. Beauty without cruelty Astrachan short coat, dark brown suede £38.99 07594 604523

DINNER SUIT ex cond, fit 6' man, chest 44/46 £30. Shoes 8-9 £10. 07960 580570

GENTS OVERCOATS almost new, 1 grey, 1 brown £20 each. Raincoat black £15, ex cond. 07960 580570

LADIES JACKET coney fur size 12 £10. New not worn, ex cond. 01695 421357

UGG BOOTS genuine, not copy, size 39, used but plenty of wear left, good cond £5. buyer collects. 07510 219705

CALVIN KLEIN Men's Large Calvin Klein Cream Jumper Excellent Condition £50 07787323036

HI VIS Jacket XL, long thigh length, fully lined, medium weight, unused £25 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

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LADIES COAT 3/4 length Black Size 22 lined worn once as new Bargain for quick sale £5 01704220356

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IPHONE6 64GB Unmarked, mint condition full working order, unlocked , black, box, charger and lead, £305 01704831977

SAMSUNG S4MINI like new very light use boxed with charger in black mist colour bumper case and screen covers included bargain £85 07729991241

HP PRINTER INK. Genuine unopened HP364, multipack coloured ink cartridges compatible with HP Photosmart Printers £33.99 in Currys. Use by Feb 18 £20 Banks 01704 212115

LEXMARK X2650 printer with some ink, good condition £25 ono 01704 576015

COMPUTER TABLE with casters in good condition £12 01704879568

COMPUTER DESK Two drawer desk, £30, good condition. 07773055272

COMPUTING

DELL LAPTOP 12" screen, 6 gig ram, 250gig hd, win 7 ultimate, + free external disc drive. £90 07504888423

APPLE IPOD Touch Blue, 32gb, 5th gen, very good used condition. Boxed with case. Home button defective. Screen scratch free. £75. 07592348331

SAMSUNG S4 Mini smartphone. GT-I9195, 8gb, Black, Boxed with charger. Unlocked. Very good used condition. Screen scratch free. £75. 07592348331

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JUNIOR WOODWORK VICE Record 51 6inch £25 01704 214017

GARDENING

WATER BUTT Very large water butt with tap. lovely condition genuine reason for sale £20 01704 875299

GARDEN SET Wooden dining table 65inches X 35inches plus 6 chairs and seat pads. Very good condition. £120 01695578188

2 BIRD nesting boxes-brand new/well made in solid wood. Painted chestnut colour. W6"D6"H8.5"; entrance hole 28cm £5 each 07855222552/07821417560

BLACK BIN traditional style in durable plastic. Clip on lid. £5 07855222552/07821417560

GARDEN SHED 6 x 4ft, excellent condition, stored under cover, heavy duty quality timber, £150. Buyer to remove. 07930 980981

HEDGE TRIMMER Bergman telescopic, never used. Minimum reach 2.33m max. Diameter cut 16mm. Carrying strap. Need to collect £45 ono 01695 732594

GARDEN GNOMES Snow White and Seven Dwarfs. Very colourful £30 0151 5271944

QUALCAST TURBO 35 electric lawn mower £35. Trellis 6'x16" 1.25" wood £4.50 each. Fan trellis 4'x2' 1.25" wood, £4.50 each 0151 5266235

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GARDENING

QUALCAST CONCORDE lawnmower 35M electric, good working order £35 0151 526 1337

GARDEN HOSE hozelock, garden hose cart trolley, approx. 50mt length, good condition, £30 01704 876855

MARLEY RAIN DIVERTER RD 25rd square black unused £10 01704 214017

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SONY TV 28" Digital Freeview CRT TV in Silver Model KD-28DL10U including stand and remote control. Very Good Condition £35 ono 07767 872655

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CROSSLEY SUITCASE Record player, good condition £15 01704 893645

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LEATHER SUITE Brown leather 3 seater sofa and 2 chairs. Immaculate condition. Modern design. £280.00 buyer collects. Aintree area. 0151 286 0932

TV CABINET mahogany, wood, fits tv in top with 3 shelves below has 2 full length doors with fancy beading for pattern that can fold back ex con £95 07821417560/ 07855222552

DE-LONGHI 3kw fan heater - off white/grey colour. Non-upright. VGC £15 07855222552

PICTURE OF VICTORIAN FIREMAN carrying young girl out of house fire in his arms in sepia colours with a dark brown wooden frame, gold inset around inner edge H 24" x W 19", beautiful picture, ex con £30 07821517560

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TV UNIT Black & Silver Corner TV Unit modern design 21"high, 28" Long .vgc £20 01704 891371

TV UNIT Teak colour wood tv stand with two cupboards 24"high, 33"long vgc £20 01704891371

STUDY FURNITURE Modern desk 24" wide, 48"long, Swivel chair cherry red upholstery, Filing unit 33"wide, 68" high. All purchased to match vgc £80 01704 891371

TV UNIT Black oval tv unit 19" high, 38"long has 3 shelves vgc. £25 01704 891371

PINE BOOKCASE 6 foot high 10" depth 35" wide with five 9" depth shelves, nice shape and in very good condition. Sell for £99 07434841029

STAG CORNER display cabinet £30. Stag drinks cabinet with 2 cupboards £30, both good condition 07751 267034

TV STAND black and chrome glass, still as new £10. Pack of 4 low energy lightbulbs, bayonet cap fitting, last 10 years£10 07870 514356

CONSERVATORY SUITE 2 seat settee, 2 high back chairs, new covers, blue/green, honey coloured cane, good condition £80 0151 4744261

DOUBLE BED and mattress, as new £50 01704 514879

CURTAINS Immaculate, fully lined with pleated pelmet, cream & pale green, 6 widths combined 80" long £35. 01704 547547

CHAIR BED with solid frame, very good condition reduced for quick sale, space needed, photo on request. £35 07778 537802

HOTPOINT FRIDGE & freezer, good condition, fit under worktop. £50 each 01695 578392

SETTEE 3 seater & armcahir, excellent condition, grey colour £70. 07506 872156

CREAM ARMCHAIR with scroll pattern like new. Vey comfy, italic writing on fabric pattern. £50 01704 560464

DYSON DC22 Cylinder Vacuum Cleaner, good condition complete with all tools £55 01704 570646

DOUBLE WARDROBE Pine, ideal child's room £25. Lovely single pine carved headboard £15 01704 821597

MICRO SCALEXTRIC sets, Rally Pro, Audi Challenge £30 & £25 ono 07784 063827

HOOVER DISCOVERY red & white bagless £30. Hoover Hepa filter Hoover 1900w white & purple. With good powerful £30 each. Hepa filtered 07784 063827

INDUSTRIAL VACUUM Bex Bissel with some tools, like new £30. Hepa filter 07784 063827

VAX VACUUM Bagless, red, like new £30. Good suction. Hepa filter 07784 063827

BAGLESS VAX Grey, long reach, as new £30. Very powerful Hepa filter 07784 063827

LARGE PRINT Mirror of NY Scafolders on lunch with mirror surround. 4ft x 2 1/2 ft £20 ono. 07784 063827

FLOOR LAMP Cordless, black, never used still in box £8 0151 2807372

CURTAINS Cafe net lace, 4 mtrs 12 inch 4 mtrs 20 inch, unused, cream. Two sets drapes 42inch drop kitchen or bathroom white the lot £40 0151 2807372

DOUBLE HEADBOARD Red velvet, V.G.C £25 Plantation 100% wool, camel suede rue 5x3 brand new retail price over £200. Selling price £85 07594604523

ENCYCLOPAEDIA 'The World of Knowledge' 1970, 24 volumes £25 01704 461083

ELECTRIC HOSTESS 3 Pyrex dishes, keeps food hot £55. Swivel chair, cream leather, metal stand £35. Pine corner TV unit, lead light doors £25 0151 5266235

CONSERVATORY CHAIRS 3 good quality wicker, green cushions, matching still £175 01704 211457

BRAND NEW boxed food disposal unit by Incinerator, galvanised steel, one stage grind, maintenance free, easy installation. Cost £180, accept £100 01704 874189

PINE DESK roll top bureau with drawers, good cond £55. 07743 922520

WHITE DOORS 6 panels. 8 at 6'6"x2'6". 1 door 6'6"x2'3". 2 bifold-doors 6'6"x2'6" £10 each vgc 07711 306206

BEDROOM SUITE 3 piece, dressing table, 2 wardrobes, walnut brown, vgc high class £50 0151 924 8154

BEAN BAG good cond £15. Step ladder. good used cond £15. Wall mirror, lovely cond 92x45cms gold frame £30. 07492 740424

HAT BOXES set of 3, round widest 13", new and unused, teddy bear design £6. 07510 219705

PINE WARDROBE double £25 plus single pine headboard £10. 01704 821597

QUARTER WINDOW-VAC & spray bottle cost £60 accept £20. Mincer machine, perf con, used once. 01695 721200

MEILE DISHWASHER G646SC turbo thermic plus, good cond £100ono. 01704 560518

BEKO FRIDGE ONLY Five feet high silver nearly new, will sell for £75 first to see will buy 07767790187

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE Rattan handmade top of the rangecost £2500 will sell for £275 quick sale Three chairs three smoked glass tables bueatiful 07767790187

NEST TABLES(3) Queen Ann legs, Excellent Cond. £20 01695 576726

FLOOR LAMP John Lewis Allegro adjustable head for focused reading etc.Satin chrome As new £19 07966101288

M & S Padstow single drawer and shelf side or bedside tables . Grey with wood top immaculate. Cost £199 accept £60 each 07966101288

UNDERBED STORAGE DRAWERS Pine x two £30 01704 214017

WEDGWOOD CALENDAR PLATES Seventies offers 01704 214017

TABLE TOP COOKER suit flat, office, boat, camping, plugs into 13amp socket, oven, grill and 2 hot plates, little used £45 Southport 214498

GAS HOB brand new in packaging, 4 burners, black by Indiset £80 ono Southport 214498

BAGLESS UPRIGHT vacuum cleaner, very strong suction, dyson dc07, can deliver £35 Southport 214498

LARGE MIRROR Bevelled mirror in walnut wooden frame. Size 96 cm x 96 cm. Very good condition. May deliver £35 01704 560150

DYSON DC14 Upright vacuum cleaner with tools. Excellent pick up and very good condition. May deliver £55 01704 560150

FLUORESCENT TUBES 5 new and boxed replacement tubes 1200 mm (4 Ft) £15 01704 560150

HEADBOARD for a double bed in pine finish and is in a nice condition. £15 01704897568

TABLE/CHAIRS solid honey oak table 2 cream leatherette chairs perfect condition from smoke free home buyer collects £180 07948156871

CEILING LIGHT 5 solid glass shades herringbone cut chrome design perfect condition from smoke free home £25 buyer collects 07948156871

DOLCE GUSTO coffee machine melody 3 with booklet and some pods perfect condition from smoke free home buyer to collect £25 07948156871

MIRROR 32"x19" no marks or scratches beautiful design £30 buyer to collect 07948156871

NEFF Electric Double oven and grill Excellent condition with hob and cooker hood £90 01704 579486

TABLE 5ft Extending table cream wood colour 2 chairs and 2 Carvers with brown seat covers excellent condition £100 01704579486

NAO ORNAMENT Perfect condition boy with rucksack and dog 7 inch tall £15 01695 420950

NAO ORNAMENT Lady with doll bad new 9 inch tall £15 01695 420950

LEONARDO ORNAMENT Georgina £20 01695 420950

WEDGE WOOD PLATE Symphony in blue perfect condition £5 01695 420950

KITCHEN SINK franke slate 1.5 bole kitchen sink good condition £30 01704577158

WATER FILTER brita 3-way struana water filter tap good condition but needs new filter £30 01704577158

CERAMIC HOB candy electric ceramic hob 4 burner good condition £30 01704577158

SLEEPEEZEE BED King size divan bed with 4 drawers, cream colour, mattress, good condition £50 ono 01704822190

GARDEN TABLE hardwood oval (extendible) table with six chairs in good condition £50 ono 01704822190

SINGLE BED Silent Night solid base. Pocket sprung mattress. Two drawers.Included wooden headboard. Very good condition. £65 Phone 01704871081

FIRE SURROUND Limestone, incl, valor, elec, 2kwatt ,fire. Fire surround H41inch, width, 45inch, with remote controlled valor thermostat control elecy fire, exc cond £180. 07843275696

SMALL METAL basket to hold logs. Curved base to lay logs on W18" D12" H7" £5 01515260300

TV STAND Black high gloss wood and glass on a single chrome leg 3 shelves H19.5" W31.5" D15" £30 01515260300

FLOOR STANDING 3 tier chrome bathroom storage rack. 10" square shelves Approx. 32" high £5 01515260300

ZANUSSI COOKER USED Zanussi Gas cooker £40 ono 07734256148

TABLETOP COOKER Russell Hobbs Table top oven and 2 ring hob. Used condition 07734256148

TILES 2 full boxes, 1 half box, 4inch x 4 inch, beige and barley mix. approx. 60 tiles £7 buyer collects 07734256148

G-PLAN ARMCHAIRS 2, matching armchairs, good condition £25 each or £40 together. Buyer to collect. 01704 620789

BEWARE OF THE CAT Amusing brass plaque measuring 7 x 2 1/4 inches. Two screw fixing (supplied). £8 01704 546978

KENWOOD CHEF Mixer, vintage 1950`s model A700D, cream with green knobs and stainless steel bowl, working but paint a bit scratched. £50 01704 530137

COFFEE FILTER Machine,Bonamat Mondo, in stainless steel, with hotplate on the top, suit guest house, cafe etc, with filter papers, little used. £25 01704 530137

HEATED FOOD Server, in stainless steel, 3 ceramic dishes with glass lids, individually heat controlled, new. £25 01704 530137

LOUNGE SUITE Old Brierley 3-piece suite (3-2-1) plus storage stool, soft cream and green fabric. Vg condition. £300 ono. 01704 876146 (Formby)

LEATHER SOFA 3 seater brown leather sofa, good condition, £50 o.n.o via collect 01695573969

DOUBLE BED metal frame bed base good condition £35 07843558159

DINING CHAIRS Six Modern Solid Ash Dining Chairs Slat Back Black Faux Seats Shop Price £570 Our Price £190 Like New Ormskirk 01695574988

SHOWER CUBICLE Brand new 1200x760 shower tray with sliding door and side panel never used still in packaging bargain £160 01704 628190

DYSON TOOLS crevice tool, wand, collection tank, small brush, extending flexible brush, filter, connector to fit other models, excellent condition some new £15 01704220356

TWO BENCHES hand made from reclaimed wood. seat 1 1/2 inch thick, turned legs 36 long, 11 inches wide Bargain £25 each 01704220356

SINGLE Foam chairbed a black pattern cotton material (similar to page 961 item 2 in Argos only £8 01704536243

WHITE BATH White acrylic corner bath complete with waste etc good condition accept £10 01704 571642

COMPUTER DESK Computer/ laptop desk stylish black glass and chrome with pull out keyboard facility.As new condition cost new £135 accept £30 01704 571642

SOFA 3 Seater Pillow Back Sofa Lime Green £250.also 2 seater cuddler sofa £150 chenille style fabrics reversible cushions with butterfly print. Very good condition 01704225473

MISC

IPHONE4 32GB Excellent condition full working order, unlocked to any network, original box, cable and charger, case £100 01704831977

BLACKBERRY 8520 Unlocked, fair condition and full working order, case and charger £20 01704831977

SALON BACKWASHES Used salon backwashes black with chrome arms 2 available £100 07710899786

EE SIMCARD ee £20 top up simcard £15 07790791733

CARLTON INTERNATIONAL flight bag with hand/shoulder handles, black. W14"H13"D7". Main storage area/4 other pockets. No broken zips/flaws. Ex con. £4 07855222552/07821417560

VOYAGER INTERNATIONAL green holdall with hand/ shoulder handles zipped compartment either end of holdall L27"D13"H13". In "as new" condition. Bargain at £5 07855222552/ 07821417560

3X1000PIECE GIBSONS jigsaws:Our House 1950; The Evacuees; 1950s Toy Box Memories, all complete £3 each/ Selection of 500 piece jigsaws £1.50each. 07855222552/ 07821417560

ROUND TABLE Solid strong pub style wooden table 21" round by 23" high teak style formica top with shelf below, looks nice as a corner table with cloth on it. Ideal to put a table lamp on. £8 07434841029

ORNAMENTAL COTTAGES Four different Irish Heritage Collection ornamental cottages, from the range called Fishermans Cottage. £10 07434841029

PHILLIPS FACIAL sunlamp healthy tan all year round cost £85 bargain £20 01515319425/07773242918

DARTBOARD WINMAU bristle immaculate ideal for sports room garage bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

30 X liverpool fa cup finals league cup finals charity shields programmes 70s upwards the lot £30 01515319425/ 07773242918

RAM FX recovery golf club 24% loft head cover as well used twice bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

DARTBOARD quality bristle as used on television excellent bargain £10 01515319425 /07773242918

ANTLER SUITCASE on wheels, used once, cost over £100. Bargain £25 07870 514356

BOTTLE CAMPING gaz empty £6, 2.72kg. Caller butane gas, empty, 7kg blue £12 01704 877990

MISC

PURSE WALLET tan leather, finest quality, never used, unwanted gift £15 0151 4765365

DYSON DC14 Silver vacuum cleaner, as new condition £45. Can deliver 079251 88189

VINYL COLLECTION of LPs and 45s, various artists/groups £25 ono. Small hand carved hall chair £25 ono 01704 576015

COFFEE BEAN grinder, £7.50 ono. Yamaha PSR-78 portaphone keyboard £40 ono. 71 piece genuine royal albert dinner/tea service £55 ono 01704 576015

CARBOOT ITEMS for sale, in bags to collect, offers. 01704 538504

CAMPING TABLE gelert table, approx. 2ft 6in x 2ft, exc cond £10 01704 876855

FLOOR LAMP John Lewis Allegro adjustable head for focused reading etc..Satin Chrome. As new £19 07966101288

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR Wheel tech Enigma remote controlled, new tyres and batteries with charger, recently serviced, as new condition, can deliver £350 Southport 214498

SUITCASE SMALL new in box unused, spinner, locking, extending handle, £25 ono. 01704 540504

DKNY CASE I phone 5C Phone Cases Pink / Blue Excellent Condition £10 Each 07787323036

LONG PLAY vinyl records. Approximately 140 of all different genres. Buyer takes all. £42 01704 212979

DOOR KNOCKER Old brass Urn door knocker in lovely condition. Measures 6 ½ x 3 ¼ inches.£8.00 01704 546978

RECORDS WANTED indie, rock & roll, 60's pop and beat, rock, folk, punk etc. Bought for cash. Cigarette & bubble gum cards also bought. 01704 566210 after 6pm

LAMP SHADES Traditional Fabric Standard Lamp Shades One Pale Plain Cream One Pale Floral Good Condition Bargain £8 Each Ormskirk 01695574988

HAIR STRAIGHTENER Brush white, anti scald, temperature control, head massage function. Used once excellent like new condition Bargain for quick sale £5 01704220356

LEG MASSAGER Good condition £20 07986557789

LIVERPOOL HISTORY 20 Books on various aspects of Liverpool history £15 Maghull 01515262502

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MOBILITY SCOOTER 2014 Elite Traveller Sport S74, Seldom used. Very good condition. Ormskirk - can deliver £250 07768054783

MOBILITY SCOOTER Tiempo scooter with basket bought May 2016 still under warranty till May 17, rarely used. Cost £580 sell for £250 Tel 07486194304

WALKING FRAME 3 frame with shopping bag, brakes etc, fold flat, can deliver £30 07925 188189

TRANSIT WHEECHAIR Weight little used, padded seat, armrests etc. Can deliver £60. 079251 88189

MOBILITY WALKER 3 wheel with bag, lockable brakes. Bargain £20. 01704 570646

SUNSHINE ELITE mobility scooter, horn, light indicators, reverse warning, all working, needs 2 batteries, sell £80, buyer collects 0151 9205423

ADJUSTABLE RECLINER easy chair with electric motor to assist standing up and sitting. Good condition, maroon colour. Collection required £100 0151 5263371

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, easily folds for transport, can deliver £50 Southport 214498

THREE WHEEL mobility walker with bag and lockable hand brakes for safety, can deliver £30 Southport 214498

WIG NEW not used, in box short style light brown/ blonde £25 ono. 01704 540504

DRIVE Ultra lightweight tri walker red 3 wheels bag and basket 4.7kg max weight 115kg 18 st £30 vgc 01704536243

MOTHER AND BABY

2 BRIGHTSTART BABYWALKERS as new, £15 each or £20 for both 01695722596

SILVER CROSS traditional pram, brown/cream, vgc includes shopping tray and sun canopy £250, buyer collects 01704 579178

SILVER CROSS original pram, excellent condition, navy and white with shopping tray, rain cover and extras, £60 ono 07539 449430

MOSES BASKET hardly used, good clean condition £5 07539 449430

HIGHCHAIR Some wear but in good working order £20 01704 870187

PINK NEXT silky curtains with white grey and sparkle butterfly border. As new. Cost £40 accept £14 07966101288

MOTHER AND BABY

TOMMEE TIPPEE Baby bottle prep machine, only used 9 months, will need new filter (cost £10). Boxed with instructions £25 07772251004

MOTORING

TRAILER JOCKEY WHEEL inflated rubber tyre, unused as new £15. 5 steel fence posts, 2' tall with hooks for chain linkage £15 01704 534969

BOX TRAILER good cond, plus spare wheel, 3'W x 4'5"L x 1'10D. 07754 408582

ROOF RACK heavy duty 1 metre x 2 metre, originally on old style merc estate £15 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

DRUM KIT Mapex Horizon HZB 6 piece. Orange, as new, never left the house. 5 Zildjian ZHT symbols & Tama double bass pedal. Complete cost £1200, accept £475 no offers. 07846 025809.

PETS

BIRDCAGE & STAND Brand new bird cage and stand 5ftx2ftx2ft complete with everything unwanted gift suitable for all birds cost £120 bargain £60 can deliver 07714942581

PET CAGE Extra Large Pet Cage H.78.5cm W.108cm D.71cm Front & side opening doors folds for storage removable plastic tray Excellent Condition £55 07787323036

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

WANTED 1980'S Old BMX Bikes And Parts. Skyway,Raleigh Burner,GT, Haro, Mongoose, Diamond Back,Torker, Firebird. Any Condition Accepted.Prompt Collection 07912 296445

KETTLER 5KG(11LBS) dumbbells £5 07855222552/ 07821417560

GOLF CLUBS 8 irons 4-sw titleist driver 3 wood 5 wood different makes putter and bag bargain the lot £50 01515319425/07773242918

TANGO MAN Lifesaving rescue submersible dummy. ILS approved regulation, contrasting colours with watertight bungs & rope attachments, 1m length, excellent condition £89. 01704 874084

NIKE TRAINERS Size 8, used once, too big. Cycling shoes (new). Size 8 1/2 Air Spar £20 the lot. Will split. 01704 821128

SNOOKER CUE John Parrott ash two-piece with signature in hard case. 55" ideal for average height adult or junior. Perfect. £30 01704 893484

TREO TREDMILL Very good condition, barely used. Bought new for £900, after £100 or nearest offer. 01515260731

NEW TAYLOR made burner 6 iron bargain £20 01515319425/07773242918

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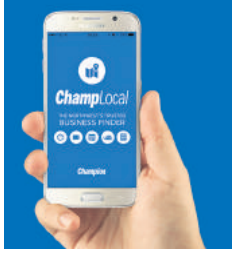

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The Legion's mission is to safeguard the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces

The Royal British Legion
Byng House - Poppy Break Centre
in Southport has recently been modernised and we are now looking to appoint the following post to work at our award winning 36 bedroomed hotel. This is a very exciting opportunity to be part of our valued and award winning team. Byng House (Hotel) provides well deserved holidays for those in the ex-service and current serving community who meet our application criteria.

Hospitality Assistant

To apply visit our website:
http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/about-us/jobs-at-the-legion
where CV's can be uploaded.

Closing date for applications: ***20th March 2017***

We are not seeking the assistance of recruitment agencies.
Preferential treatment will be given to Legion employees at risk of redundancy.

The Legion's mission is to safeguard the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces

The Royal British Legion
Byng House - Poppy Break Centre
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Business Manager

To apply visit our website:
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For more information, or if you are unable to attend on the day send CV's to: **carol.perry@arkhealth.co.uk**
or call recruitment on **01772 754442** to arrange an interview

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Senior Care Assistant

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5 star residential care home in the Lydiate area.

27 plus Hours per week

must be experienced in care, care planning, liaising with outside agencies and delegating.
All candidates must be conscientious, confident, caring and flexible.

Please contact Pauline or Michelle
0151 531 9791

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Flexible approach to working hours is essential to include daytime, evening and weekend hours as required by the business.

For more information and details of how to apply, visit our website at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 29 March 2017. These vacancies are not subject to a DBS check

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- *Round includes:* Liverpool Road North (part), Fletchers Dr, Junction Ln (part), Heather Cl, Lathom Cl
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- *Round includes:* Cotton Dr, Tennyson Dr, Asmall Ln, Brookhouse Rd, Wordsworth Cl, Whiterails Dr, Sandfields Cl
- *Round includes:* Long Ln (part), Beaumont Cr, Carmel Cl, Sandfield Pk, Moss Bank Ct, Moss Bank, Aughton Park Dr
- *Round includes:* Liverpool Rd South (part), Lordsgate Dr, Clayton House Gardens
- *Round includes:* Norris House Dr, Cole Cr, Dingle Cl, Prescot Rd, Parrs Ln, Orchard Vw
- *Round includes:* Thompson Ave, Latham Ave, Taylor Ave, Hall Brow Cl, Wigan Rd
- *Round includes:* Liverpool Rd South (part), Lordsgate Ln, Springfield Cl, Admirality Cl, Meadowbrook
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Friday 10th March 2017

£1000.....Mrs Baybut, Hightown
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£100..... Mr Isherwood, Crosby
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(DRUMMERSDALE LANE, SCARISBRICK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over Drummersdale Lane, Scarisbrick, for its full length, in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2.The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Wednesday 29th March 2017 until Friday 31st March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the prohibition is as follows; Bescar Lane – B5242 Hall Road – B5242 Damwood Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made: Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6678/arh]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(CLAREMONT DRIVE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over Claremont Drive, for its full length, in the Borough of Chorley.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Friday 10th March 2017 until 1700 hours on Friday 17th March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. No alternative route for vehicular traffic is available as Claremont Drive is a cul de sac

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6486/arh]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2017/0128/FUL Change of use to a cattery containing 10 units, conversion of garage into reception and storage, creation of three additional car parking spaces at The Cottage, Narrow Moss Lane, Ormskirk.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0116/FUL New single storey nursery, with tarmacadam access path and external area at St Teresas Catholic Primary School, College Road, Up Holland.

Application No: 2017/0199/FUL Alterations to the external appearance of the property, with the installation of 2no. rooflights at 3 Shore Road, Hesketh Bank.

Application No: 2017/0202/COU Change of use of first, second and loft floors above existing shop to student HMO, with 10 no. single bedrooms and 5 no. double bedrooms at Cancer Research UK, 4 Aughton Street, Ormskirk.

Application No: 2017/0206/OHL Rebuild of an existing 11KV overhead line on land at Great Altcar to Downholland Cross at Great Altcar To Downholland Cross.

The proposed development affects a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development

In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration
Dated: 15th March 2017
PDNOT939

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Local Plan Review

Notice of public participation in the preparation of a Development Plan Document
The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18

The Borough Council are beginning to prepare a new Local Plan, which will eventually replace the West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027. The Local Plan Review will set out the Council's planning framework for future development in the Borough, and will include policies and proposals for development that will deliver West Lancashire's housing and employment needs and help to address a range of key issues facing the Borough.

The first stage in the preparation process is 'Issues and Options' in which the Council looks to identify the issues facing the Borough that planning can help address and the planning options that help to address them.

The Council will be consulting on the Local Plan Review: Issues and Options from Thursday 16th March until Friday 28th April 2017 and invites comments on the published documents. Comments should be received no later than 5pm on Friday 28th April 2017.

Copies of the documents, along with all accompanying documents including a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment, will be available at www.westlancs.gov.uk/localplan and it is preferred that comments are submitted using the survey link provided on the website. Alternatively documents can be viewed at the Borough Council offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and the Customer Service Point, Skelmersdale on Mondays to Fridays 9am to 5pm (4.45pm Fridays) and public libraries across the Borough during their normal opening hours.

The Council have arranged a number of public workshops to support discussion of the issues and options. Places must be booked. For more information contact the Local Plan Team or see the website.

The Council are also inviting general comments on what the Local Plan Review should cover, through the Scoping consultation. Comments should be submitted by Friday 28 April 2017, and details are available at the above website.

Further information is available from the West Lancashire Borough Council Offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire, L39 2DF or by calling the Local Plan Team on 01695 585194 or by emailing localplan@westlancs.gov.uk

Dated: 15th March 2017

Directorate of Development and Regeneration Services
John Harrison DipEnvP MRTPI
Director of Development and Regeneration Services
West Lancashire Borough Council
01695 577177
www.westlancs.gov.uk
PDNOT940

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(A5209 LOWRY HILL LANE, COURSE LANE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over the following lengths of highway, in the Borough of West Lancashire.
i. A5209 Lowry Hill Lane, from its junction with Hall Lane to its junction with A5209 Course Lane;
ii. A5209 Course Lane, from its junction with A5209 Lowry Hill Lane to a point 350 metres south east of its junction with Moss Bridge Lane
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 to Friday 31st March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- A5209 Course Lane - A5209Ash Brow - A5209 Alder Lane – B5246 Lancaster Lane - B5246 Chorley Road - B5246Robin Lane - B5246 Hall Lane - B5246 Rufford Road - B5246 Meadow Lane - B5246 Station Road - B5246 Diamond Jubilee Road – A59 Liverpool Road - A59 Causeway Lane - A59 Moss Lane - A59 Liverpool Road North - A59 Liverpool Road South – A5209 Square Lane – A5209 Briars Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6680/arh]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BUTCHERS LANE, AUGHTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle, cycle or, pedestrian to proceed over that length of Butchers Lane, Aughton from a point outside the property known as Brookfield Mill to a point outside the property known as Brooklands Cottage in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0930 hours until 1530 hours on Monday 27th March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Butchers Lane – Brookfield Lane – Bold Lane – Town Green Lane – B5197 Prescot Road – Butchers Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable overhead electrical cabling works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6660/arh]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(ACRES LANE, GREAT ALTCAR, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle, cycle or pedestrian to proceed over that length of Acres Lane, Great Altcar from its junction with B5195 Flatmans Lane to a point, 20 metres south of the property known as Milbourns Cottages in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0930 hours until 1530 hours on Wednesday 29th March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Acres Lane – Punnell's Lane – Station Road – A5147 Southport Road – A5147 Mairscough Lane – B5195 Altcar Lane – B5195 Flatmans Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable overhead electrical cabling works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6847/arh]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(CASTLE LANE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Castle Lane, Ormskirk from its junction with Lathom Lane, to its junction with A577 Crosshall Brow in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Tuesday 14th March 2017 to Friday 24th March 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Lathom Lane –Dark Lane – Greetby Hill – Tower Hill – A577 Wigan Road – A577 Crosshall Brow and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6485/arh]

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ANNIVERSARIES

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Love Alan,

Martyn & Lydia

xxx

Announcements

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DAVIES THOMAS (TOM)

The family of the late Tom Davies wish to express their sincere thanks to all friends and neighbours for their kind messages, donations to Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK and thoughtfulness towards him during the later years of his life. Special thanks must go to the excellent doctors and nurses of the Accident and Emergency Department within Southport District General Hospital for their dedication and kindness. Also, thank you to Mr Peter Goulding for officiating at the funeral service in such a fitting manner and to Sweeneys Florist for providing the lovely floral tributes. Finally, we are very grateful to all at Howard's Funeral Directors for their professionalism and attention to detail, resulting in such a dignified and respectful funeral.

DEATHS

LOWE DAVE

Died peacefully at Wigan Infirmary 1st March 2017

Aged 86 years old

much loved Husband of Hilda,Dad of Ros,Father In Law to Paul and Grandad to Laura and Matthew.Funeral to be held at Myrtle Chapel, Springwood Crematorium Liverpool on March 20th at 2.15pm. Family Flowers only but donations to Cancer Research UK are very welcome. Enquiries to W.Banks of Orrell . 01695 622272

DEATHS

COCKEN SHEILA

3rd March 2017

Passed away peacefully

Aged 78 years of Ormskirk

Loving Wife of the late Keith, much loved Mother of Rachel and dear Mother in law of Morgan. For funeral arrangements please contact Louis Hunter MLS Funeral Directors 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton L39 5DZ. 01695 424888.

DEATHS

WEBSTER DOROTHEA

2nd March 2017

Peacefully in hospital

Aged 89 years

of Upholland

The dearly loved Wife of the late Sam and loving Mum of Graham (deceased). She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent family funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel:- 01695 722122 / 720012

DEATHS

RYLEY BRIAN

Peacefully on 5th March 2017

aged 79 years

of Burscough

Dearly loved Husband of the late Doreen. Much loved Dad of Helen and Angela. Dear Father-In-Law of John and Richard. Devoted Grandad of Ben, Rebecca, Alice and Tom. Funeral Service at St. John C/E Church Burscough, on Monday 20th March 2017 at 10.45am. Followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only by request, but donations if so desired for Alzheimer's Society. Donations and further enquiries please to Margaret Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 22a Liverpool Road, Burscough, L40 5TP. Tel: 01704 891555

GIARDINA VINCENZO (Vinnie)

12th March 2017

Aged 86 years

Vinnie will be sadly missed by his loving family and friends. Funeral service to be held at Our Lady's Help of Christians, Tartlon on Tuesday 21st March at 1pm, followed by interment at All Saints Churchyard, Hesketh Bank. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation. Further enquiries to Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton. PR4 6RJ. Telephone: 01772 811165

HOUGHTON TERRY

8th March 2017

Aged 53 years

Son of Kay, and the late Roy Houghton. Loving Son and Brother will be sadly missed by Family and Friends. Funeral Service to take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 27th March 2017 at 1.00pm. Family flowers only please but donations if so desired to Macmillan Cancer Support. All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk, L39 2EY Tel: 01695 572997

HURST GORDON

10th March 2017

Peacefully aged 82 years

of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Husband of the late Joyce, loving dad of Paul and devoted Grandad of Kimberley and Daniel. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Thursday 16th March 2017 at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to North West Cancer Research. All enquiries to H. Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

HUMPHRIES IRENE

27th February 2017

Suddenly at home

aged 86 years

A much loved Auntie of Valerie, Vivien, Stephen, Kim and Neil. Irene will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. The Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Monday 20th March 2017 at 4.00pm. Flowers welcome, or donations can be made to Barnado's. Further enquiries to Cookson Tyrer Funeralcare, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU. Tel: 01704 897770

HEATON MARJORIE RHODA

4th March 2017

Passed away peacefully in Silver Birch Lodge

Aged 95 years

Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service and Interment at Ormskirk Parish Church on Friday 17th March at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please but donations if so desired for Ormskirk Parish Church. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 424888

McDOWALL (Nee COX) ANN

10th March 2017

Aged 74 years

Peacefully at home surrounded by her family. Loving Wife of Frank and devoted Mother to Kim and Julie. Special Nan to Kayleigh, Laura, Natalie and Sarah and Great-Nan to Heidi-Ann and Louise. Sister to Timmy, Paul and the late Debbie. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Monday 20th March at 2:00pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR, Telephone: 01704 500086.

FOSTER GEORGE

5th March 2017

Passed away peacefully

Aged 73 years

Much loved Husband, Father, Grandad and Brother. George will be sadly missed by his broken hearted family. Funeral service on Thursday 16th March at 11.30am at St. Helens Crematorium. All enquiries to Devonports Funeral Services. Tel: 01695 731199

DEATHS

WOOLLEY MARY

8th March 2017

Suddenly but peacefully at her home in Lathom.

Beloved Wife of the late Jim, ever loving Mother of the late Marie, dear Mother-In-Law to John, much loved Nan of Lisa and cherished Great-Nan Rosie to Lucy. Sadly missed by all her family. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at Hardman & Co. Independent Faimly Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

MOLYNEUX JEAN

2nd March 2017, suddenly but peacefully aged 85 years with her family around her

Dearly beloved Wife of the late Ken Molyneux. Much loved Mum of Stephen and Ann. Mother in law of Andy and Lisa. Devoted Nan of Lena, Ben and Helen and of Granddaughter in law Kayleigh and Grandson in law Stephen. Loving Great Grandma of Zac, Elise, Frankie, Freya and Robbie. Jean will be sadly missed by all her family and friends and all who knew her. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough, at 2.30pm on Thursday 23rd March 2017. Family flowers only by request but the family are receiving donations in memory of Jean on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support. Further enquiries to Co-operative Funeralcare, 22c Wigan Road, Ormskirk L39 2AU. Tel: 01695 577244.

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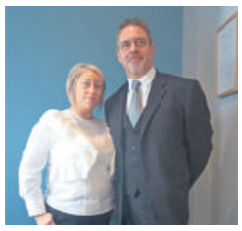

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01704 891555
22a, Liverpool Road North, Burscough, L40 5TP
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IN MEMORIAM

DEAKIN VIOLET
16th March 1940 - 2nd March 2016

A much loved and missed Mum, Nan, Great-Nanny, Sister, Auntie and Friend. Gone but NEVER Forgotten. Love always your forever loving family x

~~~~~~~

HAY SHAREA ANGEL-HOPE
13th March 2012

5 years have passed since I held you in my arms, yet it feels like only yesterday. You are the gift of my life and I will be forever grateful and proud to be your mummy. Happy Birthday my sweet Angel, I hope you're having a great time up there in the clouds with Nanny and the rest of our lost loved ones. Your forever loving Mummy X

Another year has passed but you are in my thoughts every moment of every day. Love you and miss you loads, Grandad X

A much loved and missed Daughter, Grandaughter, Niece and Cousin
XXXXXXXX

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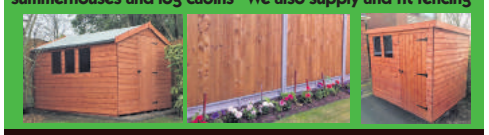

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What is the next classic car that's worth investing a few quid in?

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
www.lifeoncars.co.uk

EVERY so often someone who might as well have cartoonish dollar signs in their eyeballs rather than pupils asks me the same question. What's the next classic car worth investing a few quid in?

It's always a question that worries me. Partly because buying any car with investment rather than enjoyment in mind always smacks a bit of Arthur Daley, but more because the answer's no longer the one people want to hear.

It isn't the Jaguar XJ-S, which for ages seemed to be worth about £2.50 and is suddenly unobtainable for anything less than £6000. It isn't the Ford Sierra XR4i, which you used to be able to find abandoned in laybys but is now talked up by people with beards and trendy glasses as being the thinking man's Capri. Nor is it the Porsche 924, which for an eternity was the cheapest German sports car money could buy but has now been usurped by the Boxster and Z3.

It isn't even – as at least one car-savvy mate suggested the other day – the Vauxhall Calibra, because while they're still cheap cars they aren't the bargain basement offerings they once were. I'm afraid you won't like the answer, because it's the Rover 800.

That and the Vauxhall Vectra. In the Rover's case one low mileage minter sold for a staggering £10,000 a couple of weeks ago, and at least one classic car insurance company I know is making a point of offering cover on really early Vectras. While we're at it you might as well add the Peugeot 405, the E36-generation BMW 3-series and Britpop-era Ford Mondeos to the list.

Cars like the Jaguar XJ-S are no longer the bargains they once were

You're probably horrified at the idea of Nineties repmobiles can even be contemplated in the same way a Triumph TR6 or an MGB might, but that's exactly the point. Because no one thinks of these cars as classics they cost virtually nothing to buy, and yet so few survive they're actually rarer than most Ferraris. A colleague of mine's just bought a Peugeot 405 SRI for instance – nothing special in its day, but in 2017 there are just 14 left in Britain.

Don't believe me? Look at what happened to the Ford Sierra. It sat in a sort of motoring no man's land for years, but sell a good one now and you'll have petrolheads in Ford-branded baseball caps biting your arms off. Same with the BMW E30 - the 3-series people with silly mobile phones used to run around in during the late 1980s, if you don't speak Petrolhead. The cars you used to see being driven around council estates now sit at car shows, being polished.

So if you really are into automotive crystal ball gazing I'd suggest you stop looking for bargain-priced sports cars. Pick up a 3-series for £400, look after it and flog it for ten times as much in a decade's time.

David is the editor of Classic Car Weekly

Brand new Suzuki Swift model to be released in May

AN ALL-NEW Suzuki Swift will be arriving in showrooms across the North West in June.

It'll only be available in five-door form, but it's lighter and more powerful than the outgoing car.

It comes with a choice of three trim levels, three engines - and the option of a four-wheel-drive system on some models.

Prices for the new model are due to be announced in May.

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Nissan's new noisy Micra

NISSAN has teamed up with high-end audio specialist Bose to create a noisy new version of its Micra.

Not only does the new spin-off of the five-door supermini, called the Bose Personal Edition, have orange cosmetic touches to give it a more aggressive look, but it has a Bose sound system that includes speakers incorporated into the headrests.

Prices for the new model, which is available both in petrol and turbodiesel form, will be announced closer to its UK launch this summer.

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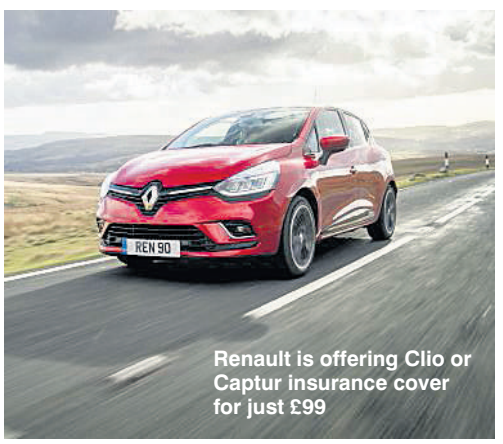

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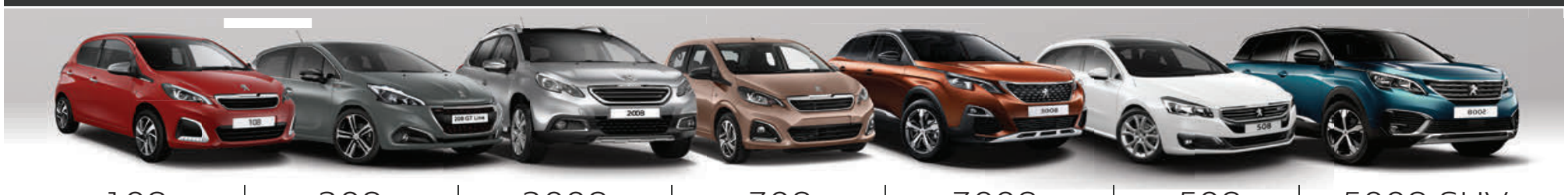

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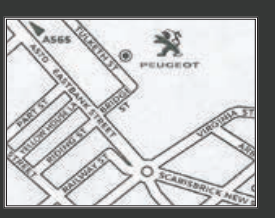

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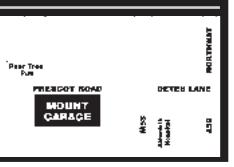

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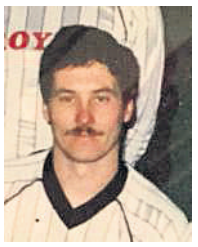
Tributes paid to Alex Blakeman

TRIBUTES were paid before Burscough Richmond FC's recent league game to former player and assistant manager Alex Blakeman, who has passed away.

The 60-year-old, who died unexpectedly at home, was remembered at his team's home match against Wyre Villa, when a minute's applause was held by players, staff and fans.

His son, Chris, said that football was one of his main passions in life, and during his career he also played for Burscough FC at different periods between 1977 and 1991.



Alex Blakeman

During his time with the Linnets, he played in an FA Cup first round clash against Sheffield United, which was played at Bramall Lane in 1979 in front of 14,000 supporters. Sheffield United won the match 3-0. Alex also had spells with local clubs Skelmersdale United, Formby and Maghull.

Chris said: "After his family, my dad's other passion was football. The words I would use to describe dad as a footballer are determined and dedicated.

"He played for various local clubs but it didn't matter what colour he was wearing, you always knew you would get 100%.

"He made so many friends and memories through football, he would always know a familiar face from his playing days when watching one of the lads play.

"Dad was a player and then coach at Burscough Richmond which saw the club become one of the most successful teams in the league's history and is a reputation which is still continuing today.

"Alex also coached for several seasons at Southport Reserves."

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Was this worst day ever for West Lancs football?

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

WAS this the worst weekend in the history of non-league football in West Lancashire?

Skelmersdale United and Burscough lost by a combined aggregate score of 13-0, with Skelmersdale losing 5-0 at home to Barwell and the Linnets getting hammered 8-0 at Colne.

Both clubs are now in grave danger of being relegated.

If Burscough lose to Glossop North End, which was scheduled to take place last night (Tuesday) and then get beat this Saturday at Prescot Cables, they will be relegated from the Evo-Stik League.

Skelmersdale are in a similar just slightly less urgent situation. With 10 league games left, if they win them all they can only amass 49 points.

But it is very likely that they will need 50 to stay up.

So, considering Skem are on 19 points from 36 matches, a miracle is needed. They would fall back into Evo-Stik Division One North.

This Saturday, Skelmersdale face the long and daunting trip to Northumberland where they take on runaway league leaders Blyth Spartans, a team who won 4-1 at Skelmersdale back in January.

The irony of all this is that in Burscough's case they have, prior to last Saturday, showed a collective fighting spirit that has been a pleasure to watch.

If they had played with that verve earlier in the season they might not be in the plight they are now.

Skelmersdale can be real entertainers, Alan Rogers has been forced to play a team of mainly youngsters who have played or are currently at big clubs.

They have a high level of technical ability, they work tirelessly and can play some flowing football, the problem is that they can struggle against the big, strong physical outfits that many teams are in the Evo-Stik Premier Division.

Both teams are worth a watch for the remainder of the season, even if they do face relegation.

Struggling Skem were hit for five at home to Barwell

Skelmersdale United 0
Barwell 5

SKELMERSDALE suffered their biggest home defeat of the season to leave their hopes of survival hanging by a thread.

The first warning sign of what was to come came in the sixth minute when 17-year-old debutant goalkeeper Joe Hilton dived full-length across his goal to palm away a shot from Brady Hickey.

Two minutes later Barwell took the lead when a knock down by Callum Ball gave the on-running Hickey a simple task of finishing from a few yards.

In the 14th minute Barwell doubled their lead. The ball was given away in the Barwell half and former Derby County forward Ball carried the move on before releasing Hickey behind the Skem defence for a chance he gratefully accepted.

Skelmersdale came back with what was to be their best chance of the game in the 24th minute. Steve Irwin sent a sweeping ball from left to right, Remy Howarth controlled it, and switching the ball to his left, his shot was only kept out by goalkeeper Liam Castle's outstretched foot.

Skem players in action. Pictures by John Driscoll.

In the 50th minute Hilton brought off a magnificent reaction save to his left from Hickey, but three minutes later he was beaten.

Edward Nisevic and Ball pulled off a slick exchange on the left and the former put in a driven cross, the mobile Hickey got his head to the ball and put it well wide of Hilton into the net to make it 3-0.

Just after the hour Nisevic was put way at pace down the left and crossed low to the near-post, Luke Barlone got to the ball first and stabbed it home from close range.

In the 68th minute another Skelmersdale passing move broke down because of a loose pass and the ball went straight to Barlone, the burly forward immediately lifted it over the defence where Ball ran onto it and blasted past Hilton for 5-0.

Manager Alan Rogers said: "The budget I have got to play about with that is where we are at. I am not a miracle worker.

"We are either superb or awful, there is no in-between"

... And it was even worse for Linnets who conceded eight

Colne 8
Burscough 0

BURSCOUGH'S 19-year tenure of a place in the Evo-Stik League (apart from two in National League North) is now in grave danger after suffering their biggest defeat of the season at the Holt House ground on Saturday.

The Linnets just couldn't cope with Colne's young striker Ollie Wood, who netted four times to lead what in the end was a rout.

Goals in the 17th and 21st minutes put Burscough in trouble. The first saw Wood get away from his marker to head home at the near-post from a corner.

The second goal came after former Skem hero Adam Morning was given far too much space on the left, from where his ball across the face of goal was flicked into the net by Wood from about six yards.

Wood completed his 14-minute hat-trick on 31 minutes.

Again Morning was the provider with a diagonal ball that put the big striker one-on-one with Burscough goalkeeper Ritchie Mottram, the ball going into the bottom corner.

When on 42 minutes Holmes put a clumsy challenge in on Morning and a penalty followed that was converted by Mark Ayres and the Colne slope wasn't the only mountain Burscough had to climb after the interval.

In the 62nd minute Morning got in on the goal-scoring act himself, characteristically weaving a circle around two defenders then wrong-footing another before netting at the second attempt to make it 5-0.

The bad dream turned into a nightmare for Burscough in the 66th minute. Thomas Croughan who was one of the few Linnets players who was doing himself justice committed the cardinal sin, having been booked for a foul eight minutes earlier he fouled Connor Gaul and a second yellow brought a red.

To their credit Burscough didn't give up, but on 70 minutes Wood notched his fourth after a cross from the right, then in the 74th minute Ayres fired home his second spot-kick.

Two minutes from time Colne made it 8-0 via Morning. The shaven-headed left-footer was put clean through and placed the ball into the net. By then Burscough didn't even have the heart to argue.

Burscough can only get 42 points if they win all their remaining seven matches, if they lose at promotion-chasing Glossop North End on Tuesday and lose again on Saturday at Prescot Cables, they will be down.

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SKELMERSDALE
Champion

15 March 2017 Vol 24 • Issue 11 www.champnews.com

This week's Champion is inside ...

West Lancashire's future - HAVE YOUR SAY!

The Council is starting work on a new Local Plan for West Lancashire which will guide how and where new development takes place in the area. It will take 3-4 years to prepare.

The first part of the process is to look at all our background information and to identify the main issues facing West Lancashire – social, economic, and environmental - that planning can help address.

We then need to think about how best the Local Plan can help tackle the different issues.

This stage is called the **ISSUES AND OPTIONS.**

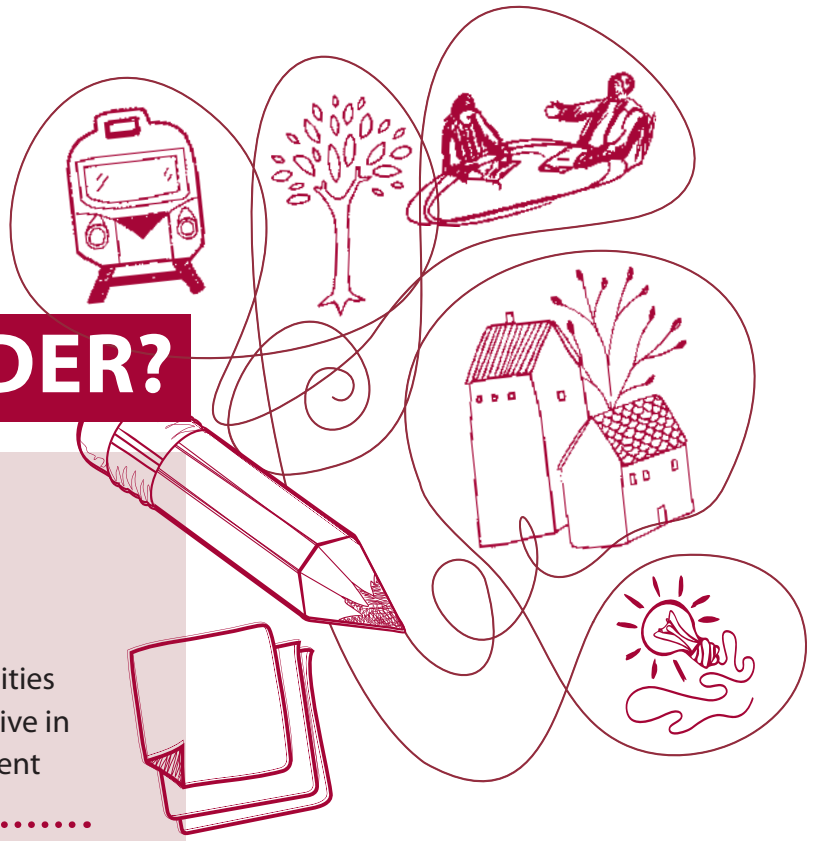
What do **you** think are the main issues that planning can help address which will affect people who **live, work and spend leisure time** here in West Lancashire? We've listed some of the issues we have identified through these pages. A full list can be found through our consultation documents. Do you **agree or disagree** with those issues that we have identified? Can you suggest **anything else** that should be included?

For each issue we've identified, we want to know how best to address it – which options are the most appropriate. The questions on the inside of this wrap will show you the types of things we need to look at. How should we respond to the **needs of everyone** in our Borough? Have you any **other suggestions** as to how we can address the issues facing the Borough through planning policies?

WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR VIEWS ON THE ISSUES AND OPTIONS.

Use these pages to **find out more** about the issues and options, our **consultation events** and how to **submit your comments.**

WEST LANCASHIRE
LOCAL PLAN



WHAT DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER?

What do you think are the planning issues for West Lancashire?

How can we respond to them?

We want to know your views on the planning issues facing West Lancashire – whether affordable housing, transport, renewable energy, environment, open space, job opportunities, shopping, services or anything else – and how you think we should address them in our new Local Plan. See these pages for just some of the issues and options we need to consider, and the back page for how you can find out more and comment.

What are the issues?

- Building a strong economy – including making land available for employment
- Supporting strong and vibrant communities including building homes for people to live in
- Protecting and enhancing the environment

How much new development? Where should it be located?

- Should we plan to 2037? Or beyond to 2050?
- How should we **spread development** across the Borough?
- How much **new housing** each year – same as now, or less, or more, or much more?
- How much **new land for business**?
- **Where should new development go** – in towns / on the edge of towns / in a new settlement?

PEOPLE, HOUSING AND SERVICES

What are the issues?

- An increasing elderly population and a decreasing, working age population.
- Inequalities between different areas of the Borough – with some areas having much poorer health, lower life expectancy, lower education levels and more limited job opportunities than other areas
- The affordability of housing
- The needs of the travelling community
- Student accommodation needs
- Access to services, facilities, jobs and transport

How do we deal with them?

- How should we provide affordable housing?
- How should we support people who want to build their own home?
- How can we help make the Skelmersdale housing market stronger?
- How should we provide housing and services for older people?
- How do we best meet accommodation needs for students and young adults?
- How should we meet travellers' accommodation needs?

THE ENVIRONMENT

What are the issues?

- Protecting nature and wildlife
- Managing flood risk
- Dealing with climate change
- Providing renewable energy

How do we deal with them?

- Should we continue to protect **local nature sites?**
- Should we identify sites for **wind turbines and solar panels?**
- How can we support **good design?**
- How can we **promote healthy lifestyles and encourage activity?**

THE ECONOMY

What are the issues?

- Strengthening the local economy
- Improving training and skills
- Protecting and enhancing town centres and what they offer
- Protecting agricultural land and supporting rural businesses
- Promoting tourism

How do we deal with them?

- What types of employment (or jobs) should we encourage?
- Where should we locate different employment types?
- How should we support the rural economy?
- Should we reconsider our town centres and shopping areas?
- Do we need to identify sites for shops and offices?

WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

DIDN'T YOU JUST DO A PLAN?

WHY DO YOU NEED TO START PREPARING ANOTHER, NEW LOCAL PLAN?

We adopted our current plan back in 2013, which covers the period 2012-2027. We need a new Plan to make sure our policies are up-to-date so that we can manage and guide where development takes place. If our plan goes out of date, it can mean the Council has less control over where development goes. This then makes it harder for us to make sure new housing and employment are put in the most appropriate areas, and for us to deliver the correct supporting infrastructure.

It's not about sites – yet

You may wonder what might happen near you under the new Plan… We are not thinking about specific sites – yet. This stage is just about identifying the issues facing the Borough, and how we can tackle them. Where we will locate development will be decided in the future. However, if you have a site that you think would be suitable for development, you can send us the details through **www.westlancs.gov.uk/localplan**. We will assess all the suggestions we receive as part of our on-going work. Submission of a site does not guarantee it will be suitable for development.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

CONSULTATION EVENTS

Come and discuss the issues for your area. **Places must be booked** by phoning the Local Plan team on **01695 585194.** Dates and times are:

MONDAY 27 MARCH
The Grove, Burscough - 7-9pm

WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH
Ecumenical Centre, Skelmersdale 7-9pm

MONDAY 3 APRIL
Parbold WI Hall, The Common, Parbold - 7-9pm

THURSDAY 6 APRIL
Chapel Gallery, Ormskirk -7-9pm

MONDAY 10 APRIL
Halsall Memorial Hall, Halsall - 7-9pm

WEDNESDAY 12 APRIL
Tarleton Academy, Tarleton - 7-9pm

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS

ONLINE:
www.westlancs.gov.uk/localplan

EMAIL:
localplan@westlancs.gov.uk

POST: Complete a comments proforma (available online or from our venues, our events or any of our team) and return to Local Plan Team, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF.

Please send us your comments by **5pm on Friday 28 April 2017**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

CLICK **www.westlancs.gov.uk/localplan**

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VISIT View the documents at: **WLBC Offices (Ormskirk & Skelmersdale CSP)** or any of the following libraries: Skelmersdale, Ormskirk, Burscough, Tarleton.

WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL